

# *Town of Palmer*

Bondsville, Depot Village, Thorndike & Three Rivers



## **Annual Report**

**July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010**



# *Jane Ellen Golas*

1925 – 2009



In February of 2009, the town of Palmer lost one of its most cherished residents, Jane Golas. Jane is recognized as the Town of Palmer Historian to its inhabitants both past and present. She was a tireless researcher and authority on town history. Her work has been donated to the Palmer Public Library. She was the author of "The History of Three Rivers, and also contributed to the book *The Town of Seven Railroads*. She did extensive research for artist Jacob Knight's historic depiction of Palmer. Jane served as a founding member and past chairwoman of the town of Palmer's Conservation Commission. She helped formulate the master plan that identifies protected land in Palmer.

She will be missed by all.



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## FACTS ABOUT PALMER

SETTLED	1716
INCORPORATED AS A DISTRICT	1752
ACCEPTED AS A TOWN	1776
LOCATION	About 15 miles east of Springfield on Rte 20
HIGHEST ELEVATION	Colonel's Mountain 1179 feet
POPULATION	12,750
FORM OF GOVERNMENT	9-Member Town Council Town Manager
TAX RATE – FY2010	
TOWN	\$15.01 per \$1,000.00 of evaluation
FIRE DISTRICT TAX	
DISTRICT #1	\$1.20 per \$1,000.00 of evaluation
DISTRICT #2	\$1.39 per \$1,000.00 of evaluation
DISTRICT #3	\$2.01 per \$1,000.00 of evaluation
DISTRICT #4	\$1.39 per \$1,000.00 of evaluation
NUMBER OF DWELLINGS	Approximately 4,329
PROPERTY VALUATION	\$974,776,965
AREA	Approximately Land 20,110.00 acres; Water 457.5 acres; Total 20,568.4 acres; Square Miles: 32.14
HOSPITAL	Wing Memorial Hospital
STREETS AND HIGHWAYS	Approximately 150 miles
PUBLIC SCHOOLS	Palmer High School Converse Middle School Old Mill Pond Elementary Pathfinder Regional Technical High School
FIRE PROTECTION	Four Fire Districts: Palmer Fire District 1: Chief Alan Roy heads a 32-member call force with a full time Captain and Lieutenant;  Three Rivers Fire District 2: Chief Patrick O'Connor heads a 34-member call force;

Bondsville Fire District 3. Chief Scott Gustafson heads a 26-member call force; Thorndike Fire and Water District 4 is protected by Palmer Fire District 1.

TRANSPORTATION

PVTA Village Bus, Peter Pan Bus (Walnut Street, Palmer), Council on Aging Van for transportation for seniors.

POLICE

Well established full-time police department and Emergency Dispatch center headed by Chief of Police, Robert Frydryk

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Walter (Beebe) Chase Memorial Park, Legion Field, Eager Playground, Palmer, Nick Laviolette Park, Three Rivers, plus playground and recreational equipment at Three Rivers Common, and Endelson Playground, Bondsville.

PUBLIC LIBRARY

1455 North Main Street, Palmer

**GOVERNMENTAL DISTRICT  
AND REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE  
TOWN OF PALMER**

**UNITED STATES SENATORS**

Scott Brown  
John F. Kerry, Boston

**REPRESENTATIVE IN U.S. CONGRESS**

Second Congressional District  
Richard E. Neal

**EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

Seventh Councilor District  
Thomas J. Foley

**SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT**

Worcester, Hampden, Franklin  
and  
Hampshire Senatorial District  
Stephen M. Brewer

**REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT**

First Hampden Representative District  
Todd M. Smola

## **BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**

### **BOARD OF APPEALS**

Antonio Andre, Chairman  
Russell Brown  
Norman Z. Czech  
Dennis Fountain  
Ingrid Thompson  
Gary Doane, Alt.  
Walter Solzak, Alt.

### **BOARD OF ASSESSORS**

Lawrence M. Jasak  
Michael J. Burns  
Beverly Morin-Lizak

### **BOARD OF REGISTRARS**

Patricia C. Donovan  
Genevieve Janosz  
Margaret Higgins  
Barbara J. Stone

### **BOARD OF HEALTH**

Paul Benard, Chairman  
John Lukaskiewicz  
Jayne Heede  
Lorri McCool, Health Agent

### **CAPITAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE**

Mary Salzmann  
Michael Ryan  
Raymond Remillard  
Deborah Smola  
Steve Muniec

### **CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

David E. Johnson, Chairman  
Donald R. Duffy  
Peter Izyk  
Robert J. Ring  
Matthew Trybus  
Christine Beauregard

### **COUNCIL ON AGING**

Ernest Charland, Chairperson  
Genevieve A. Bates, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair  
Mary Hubert, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair  
Deborah Strauss, Secretary  
Edward Bradlenski



Gloria Brounette  
Pearl Coyer  
Linda Lamay  
Audrey Julian  
Alice Smith

AUXILIARY POLICE FORCE

Jason S. Pare  
John A. Banas

BROWNFIELDS REDEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Beverly Morin-Lizak  
David Johnson  
Alice Davey

CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE (COUNCIL APPOINTED)

Philip Hebert, Councilor  
Roger Duguay, Councilor  
Mark Avis  
Carl Bryant  
Iris Cardin  
Kathleen Mailhot  
Keith Parent  
John Sasur, Jr.  
Rudolph Wilk

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Emer. Mgt. Director – Donald C. Elliott, Jr.  
Officer Kenneth White  
Fire Chief (Alan Roy)  
Fire Chief (Scott Gustafson)  
Fire Chief (Patrick O'Connor)  
Dispatcher (Tammy Piechota)  
Police Chief (Robert Frydryk)  
Board of Health Rep (Paul Benard)  
Hospital Rep. (Vacant)  
Palmer Water District (James Ammann)  
Thorndike Water District (M. Marciniec)  
Three Rivers Water District (J. Sasur Jr.)  
Bondsville Water District (Gary Pierce)

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Alice Davey, Community Development Director  
Linda Leduc, Planner  
Beverly Morin-Lizak, Assessor  
Melissa Zawadzki, Treasurer  
Richard Rollet, Building Inspector

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (Council Appointed)

Paul E. Burns, Chairman

John B. Dimaio  
John L. Sasur, Jr.  
Steven Cormier  
Renee Stolar  
Robert Young  
Russell Brown  
Joseph Turek  
Cathleen Riberdy  
Kathleen Mailhot

GROUNDWATER PROTECTION COMMITTEE

John Sasur, Chairman  
Nicholas Zeo  
Board of Health Rep. (Paul Benard)

HANDICAPPED SERVICE COMMITTEE

Neil Metcalf  
Richard Rollet

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Robert Ring, Chairman  
Marion P. Lis, Treasurer  
Lorraine Novak, Secretary  
Stephen Nowak  
Harold Olson  
Rose Riskalla  
Eric Raymond  
Donna Guerin, Associate Member

HOUSING PARTNERSHIP/FAIR HOUSING COMMITTEE

Real Estate Broker - Vacant  
Developer - Vacant  
Attorney - Vacant  
Resident-Margaret Higgins  
Housing Authority-Jean Leonard  
School Committee Rep.  
Gerald Madigan

INSURANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Paraprofessionals/Aides- Melanie Leibold, CMS  
Palmer Teachers Association – Deborah Charwick, OMP  
Palmer School Nurses/Clerical Workers – Richard Brown  
Palmer School Custodial Association – Peter Galica, CMS  
Palmer School Cafeteria – Catherine Les, OMP  
Palmer D.P.W.- Michael Moynahan  
Palmer Police NEPBA – Gary Spring and Paul Lukaskiewicz  
School & Town Clerical Workers UFCW #1459 – Richard Brown  
Emergency Telecommunicators – Tammy Piechota

Richard L. Fitzgerald, Chairman  
Robert Frydryk  
Dennis Gaudreau  
Theodore Simard  
Michael Magiera

LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE

Board of Health Rep (Paul Benard)  
Conservation Commission (Dave Johnson)  
Palmer Ambulance Service (Dave Clark)  
Palmer Fire Chief (Alan Roy)  
Three Rivers Fire Chief (Patrick O'Connor)  
Three Rivers Water Dept. (John Sasur Jr)  
Capt. Palmer Fire Dept. (David Pranaitis)  
Palmer Water Superintendent (James Ammann)  
Chief of Police (Robert Frydryk)  
Emergency Mgt. Director (Donald Elliott, Jr.)

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT BLOCK GRANT ADVISORY BOARD

James Lynch  
Attorney Timothy J. Rogers  
Robert P. Frydryk

OPEN SPACE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Conservation Member (Donald Duffy)  
Town Planner – Linda Leduc  
Planning Board Rep. (M. Marciniak)  
Council Rep. (Vacant)

PALMER CULTURAL COUNCIL

Erin Pincince, Chairman  
James Athearn  
Eileen Benoit  
Mary Bernat  
Christine Miarecki  
Carol Siegel  
Ann Wright

PALMER HOUSING AUTHORITY

Veronica A. Strzeminski, Chairman  
Margaret M. Higgins  
Ronald W. Lemanski  
Mildred Jasak

PALMER REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Blake Lamothe, Chairman  
David Swirk  
(Michael Pajak – State Appointee)

Police Chief (Robert Pryduyk)  
DPW Director (Richard Kaczmarczyk)  
Building Inspector (Richard Rollet)  
Palmer Fire Chief (Alan Roy)  
Three Rivers Fire Chief (Pat O'Connor)  
Bondsville Fire Chief (Scott Gustafson)  
Ambulance Rep. (Vacant)  
Ronald Masnicki

**FIRE & WATER DISTRICT STUDY COMMITTEE**

James Ammann  
Alan Roy  
David Supczak  
Mark MacDougall  
Patrick O'Connor  
Russell Brown  
Michael Marciniak  
Robert Haveles  
Albin Les  
John McElduff  
Keith Parent  
John Dinuovo  
Gerald Chudy

**TOWN COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEES**

**APPOINTMENT REVIEW COMMITTEE**

William Heilman  
Michael Magiera  
Raymond Remillard

**DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET/ORDINANCE COMMITTEE**

**Public Service Division:**

Roger Duguay, Jr.  
Phil Hebert  
Eric Duda

**Public Safety Division:**

Michael Magiera  
Eric Duda  
Karl Williams

**Public Works Division:**

Phil Hebert  
Paul Burns  
Rodger Duguay

**Municipal Finance Division:**

Barbara Barry

NON-TAX REVENUE COMMITTEE

Barbara Barry  
Michael Magiera  
Philip Hebert  
Raymond Remillard

TOWN MANAGER GOALS COMMITTEE

Barbara Barry  
Michael Magiera  
Paul Burns

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Paul Burns (town council rep)  
Roger Duguay (town council rep)  
Karl Williams (town council rep)

REGIONAL CASINO IMPACT COMMITTEE

Paul Burns (primary)

**ELECTED OFFICIALS**

COUNCILLORS AT LARGE

(4-yr. Term ending 2013)

Eric A. Duda  
Michael R. Magiera  
Paul E. Burns  
Karl Williams  
William S. Heilman

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

(4-yr. Term ending 2011)

Philip J. Hebert, District #1  
Barbara A. Barry, District #2  
Raymond Remillard District #3  
Roger R. Duguay, Jr., District #4

TOWN CLERK

Patricia C. Donovan (Exp 2011)

PLANNING BOARD (4 YRS)

Michael Marciniac (Exp 2013)  
Diane R. France (Exp. 2011)  
Norman Czech (Exp. 2011)  
James Haley (Exp. 2013)  
Thomas Skowrya (Exp. 2013)

Gary A. Blanchette (Exp. 2013)  
Muareen R. Gallagher (Exp. 2011)  
James St Amand (Exp. 2011)  
David Lynch (Exp. 2013)  
Robert Janasiewicz (Exp. 2011)

**PATHFINDER REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE**

Michael J. Cavanaugh (Exp. 2010)  
David M. Droz (Exp. 2012)

**PALMER CHARTER COMMISSION (ELECTED)**

Paul Burns, Chairman  
Joseph Mastalerz, Vice-Chairman  
Eric Duda, Clerk  
Charles Abbate  
Raymond Domey  
Richard Fitzgerald  
Michael Pajak  
David Whitney  
Paul Wisnewski

**APPOINTED OFFICIALS**

Town Accountant	Valerie Bernier
Town Planner	Linda Leduc
Community Development Director	Alice Davey
Veteran's Agent/Burial Agent/Graves Officer	Mark Avis
Town Counsel	Charles Ksieniewicz
Associate Town Counsel	Michael Ciota
Town Auctioneer	Kevin Gouvin
Building Inspector	Richard Rollet
Assistant Building Inspector	Ralph Brouillette
Gas Inspector	Gary Stahelski
Electrical Inspector	Gerald Weston
Assistant Electrical Inspector	David Beaudoin
Plumbing Inspector	Gerald Nichols
Constable	Norberto Garcia
Constable	James Lynch
Constable	William McCarthy
Constable	Robert Frydryk
Fence Viewer	Joseph Nietupski
Forest Warden	Alan Roy
Animal Inspector/Dog Officer	Frederick Guzik
Asst. Animal Inspector/Asst. Dog Officer	Wanda Guzik
Sealer of Weights & Measures	Joseph Serrato
Asst. Sealer of Weights & Measures	John L. Auchter
Sexual Harassment Grievance Officer	Patricia A Kennedy
Sexual Harassment Grievance Officer	Richard Rollet

Treasurer/Tax Collector	Paul A. Nowicki
Emergency Management Director	Donald C. Elliott, Jr.
Town Assessor	Beverly Morin-Lizak
Department of Public Works Director	Richard Kaczmarczyk
WWTP Superintendent	Gerald Skowronek
Council on Aging Director	Erin Pincince
Hampden County Housing Services Advisory Committee	Jean Leonard
Palmer Public Library Council Rep.	
Pioneer Valley Planning Commission	Michael Marciniak,
Pioneer Valley Planning Comm. Policy Advisory Rep.	Richard Kaczmarczyk,
P.V.T.A. Advisory Council Member	
Quaboag Valley Business Assistance Corporation	Ronald P. Christiansen
Environmental Certifying OfficeHearings Officer/Building Code Violations	David Johnson

## **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE**

### **TOWN MANAGER**

Fiscal year 2010 was once again a year of change.

During this fiscal year, the CSO Phase IV and final combined sewer overflow separation project began in Depot Village, Thorndike and Bondsville. In the November, 2009 election, the following Councilors were elected: Philip J. Hebert, District #1, Barbara A. Barry, District #2, Karl Williams, District #3 and Roger Duguay, Jr., District #4; At-large Councilors elected were Eric Duda, Michael Magiera, Paul Burns, Raymond Remillard and William Heilman.

In January, Town Council elected Paul Burns, President, Barbara Barry, Vice President and Philip Hebert as Clerk.

On June 3, 2010, Town Manager Matthew Streeter stepped down and was replaced by Patricia Kennedy as Acting Town Manager by appointment of the Town Council.

On June 29, 2010, Town Council voted a budget of \$31,697,642 for fiscal year 2011. In order to achieve a balanced budget, \$140,000 was reduced from the original budget recommendation, resulting in two employees on full-time layoffs, 3 employees with reduced hours and one DPW employee who moved to the Wastewater Treatment Plant and was not replaced.

I would like to thank all the department heads for all their help and support during my term as Acting Town Manager. I could not have undertaken this

Bennet, Town Accountant, Melissa Zawadzki, former Treasurer/Collector and Beverly Morin Lizak, Assessor for all their help in the preparation of the FY11 budget.

Patricia A. Kennedy,  
Acting Town Manager

## **TOWN CLERK**

**2009**

### **Deaths**

#### July

3	William Duquette	66
5	LuAnn Mazza	54
5	Iva D. Bovat	94
6	Helen B. Grzywna	86
7	William C. Barry	92
10	Debra L. Zola	50
14	Helen M. Fassett	90
20	Paul P. Siok	86
23	Harold W. Johnson	71
25	Shirley Ashe	73
25	Paul E. Cormier	89
30	Louis A. Kostolecki	97

#### August

4	Frank J. Zabawa, Sr.	87
10	Louise J. Mercier, Jr.	80
15	Jean M. Hoffey	62
15	Stanley J. Paskowich	58
16	George N. Anderson	79
16	Margaret H. Lucier	92
16	Eva C. Torricelli	83
19	Anita Hancock	81
19	Marion E. Hryniewicz	
19	Ralph F. Potter, Jr.	75
20	Nancy T. Lonczak	62
20	Lionel L. Scalise	57
25	John B. McGaffigan	60
29	Michael J. Freeman	43
29	Frederick J. Magiera	83
29	Mary Roach	71
30	Velma J. King	52
31	Kimberly A. Seymour	32
31	Ernest G. Hiersche	67



## September

3	Ester A. Merrill	72
4	Louise William Kendall	71
5	Sherwood P. Corish	77
7	Joseph W. Keifer	45
20	John L. Sasur, Sr.	93
22	Dana Lee Dinsmore	49
24	Theresa M. Lagacy	69
24	Milton Wojcik	89
25	Nora Smigiel	66
26	Connie C. Ragusa	74
27	Bernice Marhelewicz	89
29	Richard E. Johnson	75

## October

2	April D. Day	49
3	Genevieve Janosz	95
6	Charlotte M. Kusha	89
7	Dorothy E. Jeffery	91
7	Dorothea P. Wetherbee	95
7	Victoria M. Pietrusza	83
8	Dolores T. Miga	79
10	Martha C. Rusiecki	44
17	Grace P. Kulpa	77
17	Whitney A. Ralph	58
19	Sophie C. Gula	88
22	Russell Hale	83
24	Richard H. Booth	79
30	Julia A. Laviolette	90
31	Helen F. Wajda	92

## November

5	Roland F. Champeau	82
6	Joseph F. Misiaszek	89
6	Hazel P. Marshall	86
9	Thomas J. Ashe, Jr.	79
11	Roland D. LaMadeleine	57
15	Thomas C. Ewig	40
19	Richard D. Ring, Jr.	57
24	Elizabeth A. Sorel	71
27	George A. Lovell	85
30	Eleanor C. Ierardi	89

## December

3	Lorraine E. Quintin	79
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5	Timothy J. Fassman	44
7	Lorraine W. Siegel	78
7	Kenneth J. Carlson	74
9	Russell A. Bressette	87
9	Shaun M. O'Brien	28
9	Patricia Anne Rex	77
16	Marion D. Iwasinski	69
19	Anthony J. Enos	49
21	Nancy L. Dustin	68
22	Lucille A. Beaudry	74
24	Albert Richardson	86
26	Glen A. Whitney	76
28	Donna m. Burnham	60
28	Genny L. St.Peter	52

## 2010

### January

3	Allan R. Bryant	63
7	James G. Russo	71
8	Frederick W. Piechota	84
10	Frank Magada	84
16	Albert Goodhind	78
17	Virginia R. Gaudette	80
18	Mary Axiotis	87
24	Duong Vuong	55
25	Paul V. Bouchard, Jr.	28
25	Phyllis A. Bundrick	83
27	Stephanie Les	90
31	Stella L. Aldrich	82
31	Timothy J.O'Connor	56
31	Walter E. Woods	82

### February

1	Robert A. Grassetti	73
2	Stephanie A. Helenski	103
4	Elsie Osterman	80
7	Edwin Morse	81
7	Josephine E. Pogodinski	82
8	Samuel J. Cole	61
9	Sheldon H. Getchell	73
13	Maria Rosa	93
15	Pauline White	88
17	Rita J. Lynch	87
18	June M. Grout	64
21	Sharon L. Richer	57
22	Clayton L. Converse	68

23	Louis W. Janikiewicz	87
23	Scott M. Plumador	28
24	Sophie Bastek	86
27	William F. Cody	69
28	Sandra C. Johnson	58

## March

1	Alice M. Marhelewicz	82
2	Thomas E. Smith	49
2	Michael P. Szwed	86
7	Homer V. Bouchard	88
7	Norma Bucior	82
11	Frank Lachowski	85
12	Irene E. Katafiasz	83
12	Matthew F. Pottier	58
12	Michael T. O'Brien	38
13	Russell James J.	48
14	Patricia M. Bradway	74
14	Mary Elizabeth Chapin	80
15	Robert L. Rogers	70
17	Jean Nichols	83
20	Anna B. Krokenberger	84
22	Freida R. Pomeroy	80
22	Alvaro M. Santos	85
23	Medora M. Dionne	87
26	Martin L. Kelly	77
26	Julia Toczek	91
27	Kim Ann Ptaszekiewicz	43
29	John W. Rourke	86
31	Janet M. Purda	89
31	Richard A. Mundel	65

## April

2	Abraham Fernandez	37
3	Erik P. Norman	17
4	Edward F. Kargol	47
5	James B. Norman	25
6	Todd M. Kelly	42
6	John S. Nowakowski, Jr.	68
7	Ruth P. Vogel	75
9	Enrique Mejias, Jr.	40
11	Janet A. Daugela	68
11	Frank S. Pobieglo	81
13	William F. Whitten	89
18	Violet B. Dougherty	77
19	Victor W. Bukowski	89
21	Mary E. Langevin	81

22	Elizabeth E. Gravenne	91
23	Beatrice Anna Kie	86
23	Mary Freni	88
26	Terrance E. Chandonnet	51
27	Noel E. Brown	86
28	Richard M. Nash, Sr.	86

## May

1	Rita R. Lussier	89
2	Young, Richmond E. III	56
2	William B. Perry	61
6	Christopher Wilson	45
9	Janice L. Pomeroy	56
10	Ida M. Crockett	81
12	Matthew D. Durkee	28
13	Grace A. Morrison	90
14	Ruth Ann Romans-Belitsos	59
14	Helen T. Gavin	85
17	Mary L. Parrish	76
23	John S. Kusha	94
24	Bess Harrington	86
25	Iva F. Thomas	95
26	Katherine J. Shea	92
30	Michael P. Blazejowski	67
31	Norma J. Auchter	78

## June

10	John M. Laffan	61
13	Joseph P. Pietrowski	75
16	Gary G. Gilmore	52
16	George Pikul	82
17	Claire T. Klein	84
18	Frederick L. Medicke	95
19	Marjorie A. Gouvin	88
25	Miriam E. Lussier	63
26	Henry E. Sarrette	80
27	Mary R. Barry	77

## July

2	Robert J. Curtin	80
3	Patricia L. Butler	44
6	Bruce A. Platt, Sr.	59
10	Ruth M. Robbins	75
11	Joseph A. Zebrowski	86
12	Emilia Bergeron	93
13	Ernest W. Gunther, Sr.	88

14	Henrietta K. Brown	89
14	Theodore A. Pelletier	80
16	Mary E. Anton	61
26	Harriette A. Tucker	82
27	Lucille R. Ciejka	68
29	Mae I. Carlson	91
30	Henrietta F. Smigiel	85

#### August

2	Richard B. Wortman	67
3	Jean M. Porwoll	60
5	Cedric B. Burnham	78
5	Linda Wilson	50
6	Roland R. Coto, Sr.	81
7	Michael Preston	31
9	Catherine Steele	83
16	Wyeth Hanson	86
21	Jason Harrison	37
23	Martin R. Palka	58
28	Patricia Ann Vermillion-Pyzocha	69
28	Helen F. Lachowski	92
30	Felicidade Tetreault	96

#### September

1	Jessie F. Coolong	72
5	Julia I. Turner	98
7	Ronald M. Kosnicki	64
14	Marguerite Price	78
15	Joseph J. Nolan	65
17	Janet M. Pudlo	90
18	Margarita Castro	82
18	Patricia Kinder	76
18	Frank E. Kopacz, Jr.	60
18	Robert W. Nacsin	91
20	Cynthia L. Kardynal	57
23	Andrew Milewski	86
23	Barbara A. Safford	55
30	Erin P. Doyle	46

### MARRIAGES 2009

#### January

16	John W. Lizak, Jr.	Ware	Beverly A. Morin	Palmer
23	Shawn M. Drawec	Palmer	Sheila M. Gula	Palmer

4	Shawn J. Emery	Warren	Michelle L. Diede	Warren
14	John W. Tytula	Monson	Kathleen A. Biastoff	Monson

## March

15	Michael E. Mannix	Palmer	Megan G. Tatum	Palmer
16	Michael C. Turner	Palmer	Liliana Hernandez	Palmer
30	Adam J. McLarey	Palmer	Meaghan E. Jones	Palmer

## April

1	Richard A. Mundel	Palmer	Martha L. Sylvia	Palmer
24	Richard A. Hammer	Maryland	Margaret M. McAdam	Palmer

## May

2	Robert M. Turner	Palmer	Jacqueline M. Rheaume	Palmer
13	Laquan T. Crossley	Gardner	Michele P. Meade	Palmer
16	Michael P. Young	Palmer	Theresa L. Woods	Palmer
16	Russell Bukowski	Palmer	Joanna M. Dube	Granby
16	Leo P. Loranger, Jr.	Palmer	Anne M. Reams	Palmer
21	Yvonne M. Gamache	Brimfield	Deborah A. Baird	Brimfield
23	David F. Reed	Palmer	Jennifer L. Urekew	Palmer
24	Keith A. Richard	Watertown,NY	Kirsten L. Rose	Palmer

## June

6	Steven M. Durocher	Palmer	Kelli M. Lafreniere	Palmer
13	Robert J. LaRose	Palmer	Donna Haluch	Palmer
13	Ryan M. Allard	Palmer	Karye L. Webb	Palmer
14	David M. Ross	W.Lebanon,NH	Christine R. Claudino	Wlebanon,NH
20	Joshua P. Marlow	Palmer	Mary B. Mason	Palmer
25	Brian S. Auger	Palmer	Kristina L. Kovitch	Palmer
26	Timothy E. Miller	Palmer	Cynthia M. Hurley	Palmer
27	Christian T. Leissner,Jr.	Palmer	Rebecca L. Reynolds	Palmer
27	Pamela A. Herbert	Palmer	Jeremy J. Patenaude	Palmer
27	Matthew D. Cadieux	Palmer	Deidre L. Messier	Palmer
27	James M. Hurley	Palmer	Judith M. Chausse	Millbury
28	Dennis E. Ladue	Palmer	Amy L. Raymond	Palmer

## July

3	Edward F. Dart	Brimfield	Barbara J. Weldon	Brimfield
11	Eric A. Duda	Palmer	Jennifer K. Morrissett	Palmer
11	Ryan T. Minns	Palmer	Tara B. McDonough	Palmer
18	Aaron T. Babinski	Palmer	Amanda M. Marshall	Palmer
29	Jaimie L. Demers	Palmer	Travis J. Richer	Palmer

1	Christopher I. Thompson	Palmer	Christina J. Demaio	Palmer
1	Ormond B. Hamilton, Jr.	Palmer	Melissa M. Arel	Palmer
1	Marc A. Deschaine	Palmer	Katy-Lyn Malouin	Palmer
12	Roland J. Vermette	Palmer	Birgit H. Webb	Palmer
15	Zachary J. Scherr	Palmer	Kathryn R. Schultz	Palmer

## September

5	William B. Warren	Wales	Amanda B. Denning	Wales
12	Curtis R. Jarnagan	Palmer	Amiee J. Brooke	Palmer
12	Matthew J. Rogers	Palmer	Sharlene M. Goncalves	Palmer
18	Nicole M. Holland	Morrison, CO	Jodie R. Hood	Morrison, CO
19	Richard E. Laviolette	Palmer	Angella M. Parker	Palmer
19	Gary D. Phelps	Palmer	Caitlin B. Finn	Hampden
26	John D. Voight	Palmer	Andrea L. Marcotte	Palmer

## October

3	William O. Chaffee, Jr.	Ware	Shannon A. McMahon	Ware
9	Joseph A. Niedziela	Palmer	Renee M. Stolar	Palmer
10	Christopher J. Rhodes	Monson	Rhiannon L. Mulloy	Monson
10	Michael K. Brawn, Jr.	Palmer	Amy L. Boyer	Palmer
10	James E. West	Palmer	Andrea M. Stanfield	Palmer
17	Joshua G. Garcia	Palmer	Kyleen E. Maillet	Palmer
17	Mark A. Kohlstrom	Palmer	Dana F. Lagrotteria	Palmer
18	Dorota Nicpon	Ware	Karol Strycharz	CT.
24	Kyle J. Mackiewicz	Palmer	Jessica Lyn Wentworth	Palmer
26	Feng En Teng	Palmer	Ling Ni	Palmer
30	Michael E. Kurpaska	Ware	Amber L. Mayberry	Ware
31	Donald M. Waddell, Jr.	Palmer	Amy M. Tate	Palmer

## December

21	Keith D. Fernandes	Palmer	Leyna S. McKay	Palmer
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## 2010

## January

1	Christopher W. Morin	Palmer	Rebekah E. Bray	Palmer
1	Michael D. Alonzo	Monson	Constance M. Cassata	Palmer

## February

14	Logan G. Wood	Palmer	Jillian A. Jurkowski	Palmer
26	Michael P. Smith	Palmer	Elizabeth M. Mangaudis	Palmer

## March

21	Stephen J. Erconno	Palmer	Tokyo S. Baldwin	Palmer
21	Michael R. Hermanson	Palmer	Sarah A. Lambert	Palmer

# April

23	Anthony J. Elias	Belchertown	Tiffany Lee Dunn	Palmer
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# May

1	Joseph A. Shaw	Palmer	Andrea L. Ezdebski	Wales
22	Mark J. Baldwin	Monson	Lindsey A. Barry	Monson
22	John D. Lane	Winsted,Ct.	Jayne A. Caron	Palmer
23	James R. Ostrout	Palmer	Patricia L. Kinsley	Palmer
28	Richard C. Brown	Palmer	Dawn A. Yarkin	Palmer
29	Eric S. Larocque	Palmer	Cynthia A. Mock	Palmer

# June

5	Keith P. Lavallie	Palmer	Jessica J. Fedora	Palmer
5	Raymond M. Brouillard II	Palmer	Rebecca F. Yvon	Palmer
12	Brian A. Smith	Palmer	Cassie C. Monty	Springfield
12	Richard J. Anderson,Jr.	Palmer	Linda S. Hawk	Palmer
25	Jarred M. Talbot	Northampton	Hillary L. Kibbe	Northampton
26	Derek J. Beynor	Palmer	Theresa A. Mielowski	Palmer
30	Michael J. Edgett	Monson	Katie E. Leydon	Monson

# July

3	Richard E. Coache	Springfield	Kristy L. Knorr	Warren
6	Ayman E. Fares	Palmer	Miran W. Georgious	Palmer
9	John M. Bruno	NJ	Deborah M. Ciejka	Palmer
24	Brian E. Rumsey	IA	Chepina Witkowski	NH

# August

13	Thomas C. Sandomierski	Monson	Tammy L. Lovell	Monson
14	Scott A. Browne	Palmer	Tammy M. Puleio	Palmer
21	Eric C. Haley	Palmer	Paula A. Perry	Palmer
23	Ali Ozdemir	Palmer	Tosha R. Pellerin	Palmer
28	Henry W. Hilliard III	ND	Karen L. Lizak	Palmer



**GOVERNOR AND LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR**

PATRICK AND MURRAY	Democrat
BAKER AND TISEI	Republican
CAHILL AND LOSCOCCO	Independent
STEIN AND PURCELL	Green-Rainbow

**ATTORNEY GENERAL**

MARTHA COAKLEY 46 Coolidge Rd., Medford Candidate for Re-election	Democrat
JAMES P. MCKENNA 28 Miles St., Millbury	Republican

**SECRETARY OF STATE**

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN 46 Lake St., Boston Candidate for Re-election	Democrat
WILLIAM C. CAMPBELL 45 Arlington Rd., Woburn	Republican
JAMES D. HENDERSON 38 Brandymeade Cir., Stow	Unenrolled

**TREASURER**

STEVEN GROSSMAN 30 Huntington Rd., Newton	Democrat
KARYN E. POLITO 11 Coachman Ridge Rd., Shrewsbury	Republican

**AUDITOR**

SUZANNE M. BUMP 409 North Plain Rd., Great Barrington	Democrat
MARY Z. CONNAUGHTON 1 Tomkins Ln., Framingham	Republican
NATHANAEL ALEXANDER FORTUNE 152 Westbrook Rd., Whately	Green-Rainbow

**REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS  
SECOND DISTRICT**

Candidate for Re-election

THOMAS A. WESLEY 190 Dutcher St., Hopedale

Republican

## **COUNCILOR**

JENNIE L. CAISSIE 53 Fort Hill Rd., Oxford

Republican

FRANCIS A. FORD 8 Walbridge Rd., Paxton

Democrat

## **SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT**

WORCESTER, HAMPDEN, HAMPSHIRE & FRANKLIN DISTRICT

STEPHEN M. BREWER 193 Pleasant St., Barre

Democrat

Candidate for Re-election

DANIEL D. DUBRULE 128 Hunter Ave., Ashburnham

Republican

## **REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT**

FIRST HAMPDEN DISTRICT

TODD M. SMOLA 128 Bourne St., Palmer

Republican

Candidate for Re-election

## **DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

HAMPDEN DISTRICT

STEPHEN J. BUONICONTI 35 Beauregard Ter., West  
Springfield

Democrat

MARK G. MASTROIANNI 229 Pontoosic Rd.,  
Westfield

Independent

## **SHERIFF**

HAMPDEN COUNTY

MICHAEL J. ASHE, JR. 65 Hillside Ter., Longmeadow

Democrat

Candidate for Re-election

## **QUESTION 1**

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or House of Representatives before May 4, 2010?

and alcohol, where the sale of such beverages and alcohol or their importation into the state is already subject to a separate excise tax under state law. The proposed law would take effect on January 1, 2011.

A YES VOTE would remove the state sales tax on alcoholic beverages and alcohol where their sale or importation into the state is subject to an excise tax under state law.

A NO VOTE would make no change in the state sales tax on alcoholic beverages and alcohol.

## **QUESTION 2**

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or House of Representatives before May 4, 2010?

\*\*\* This proposed law would repeal an existing state law that allows a qualified organization wishing to build government-subsidized housing that includes low- or moderate-income units to apply for a single comprehensive permit from a city or town's zoning board of appeals (ZBA), instead of separate permits from each local agency or official having jurisdiction over any aspect of the proposed housing. The repeal would take effect on January 1, 2011, but would not stop or otherwise affect any proposed housing that had already received both a comprehensive permit and a building permit for at least one unit. Under the existing law, the ZBA holds a public hearing on the application and considers the recommendations of local agencies and officials. The ZBA may grant a comprehensive permit that may include conditions or requirements concerning the height, site plan, size, shape, or building materials of the housing. Persons aggrieved by the ZBA's decision to grant a permit may appeal it to a court. If the ZBA denies the permit or grants it with conditions or requirements that make the housing uneconomic to build or to operate, the applicant may appeal to the state Housing Appeals Committee (HAC). After a hearing, if the HAC rules that the ZBA's denial of a comprehensive permit was unreasonable and not consistent with local needs, the HAC orders the ZBA to issue the permit. If the HAC rules that the ZBA's decision issuing a comprehensive permit with conditions or requirements made the housing uneconomic to build or operate and was not consistent with local needs, the HAC orders the ZBA to modify or remove any such condition or requirement so as to make the proposal no longer uneconomic. The HAC cannot order the ZBA to issue any permit that would allow the housing to fall below minimum safety standards or site plan requirements. If the HAC rules that the ZBA's action was consistent with local needs, the HAC must uphold it even if it made the housing uneconomic. The HAC's decision is subject to review in the courts. A condition or requirement makes housing uneconomic if it would prevent a public agency or non-profit organization from building or operating the housing except at a financial loss, or it would prevent a limited dividend organization from building or operating the housing without a reasonable return on its investment. A ZBA's decision is consistent with local needs if it applies requirements that are reasonable in view of the regional need for low- and moderate-income housing and the number of low-income persons in the city or town, as well as the need to protect health and safety, promote better site and building design, and preserve open space, if those requirements are applied as equally as possible to both subsidized and unsubsidized housing. Requirements are considered consistent with local needs if more than 10% of the city or town's housing units are low- or moderate-income units or if such units are on sites

industrial use in the city or town. Requirements are also considered consistent with local needs if the application would result, in any one calendar year, in beginning construction of low- or moderate-income housing on sites making up more than 0.3% of the total private land zoned for residential, commercial, or industrial use in the city or town, or on ten acres, whichever is larger. The proposed law states that if any of its parts were declared invalid, the other parts would stay in effect.

A YES VOTE would repeal the state law allowing the issuance of a single comprehensive permit to build housing that includes low- or moderate-income units.

A NO VOTE would make no change in the state law allowing issuance of such a comprehensive permit.

### **QUESTION 3**

Do you approve of a law summarized below, on which no vote was taken by the Senate or House of Representatives before May 4, 2010?

\*\*\* "This proposed law would reduce the state sales and use tax rates (which were 6.25% as of September 2009) to 3% as of January 1, 2011. It would make the same reduction in the rate used to determine the amount to be deposited with the state Commissioner of Revenue by non-resident building contractors as security for the payment of sales and use tax on tangible personal property used in carrying out their contracts. The proposed law provides that if the 3% rates would not produce enough revenues to satisfy any lawful pledge of sales and use tax revenues in connection with any bond, note, or other contractual obligation, then the rates would instead be reduced to the lowest level allowed by law. The proposed law would not affect the collection of moneys due the Commonwealth for sales, storage, use or other consumption of tangible personal property or services occurring before January 1, 2011. The proposed law states that if any of its parts were declared invalid, the other parts would stay in effect. "

A YES VOTE would reduce the state sales and use tax rates to 3%.

A NO VOTE would make no change in the state sales and use tax rates.

Shall this town approve the revised charter recommended by the charter commission summarized below?

\*\*\* "The new Charter retains the current Council/Manager form of government. Below are the significant changes in the proposed charter: Town Council changes from 9 members to 7 (3 At Large 4 District). Terms of office for all elected officials change from 4 years to 3. Town election changes to the second Tuesday in June, those elected will take office July 1st. Requirements for Town Manager and Major Department Heads change. Town Clerk to be appointed. A new budget process is implemented. "

**THIS QUESTION IS NOT BINDING**

\*\*\* Shall the state representative from this district be instructed to vote in favor of legislation that would allow patients, with their doctor's written recommendation, to possess, grow, and purchase marijuana for medical use?

Hereof fail not and make return of this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said voting.

Given under our hands this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2010

PAUL E. BURNS, PRESIDENT

BARBARA A. BARRY, VICE PRESIDENT

PHILIP J. HEBERT, CLERK

ERIC DUDA

WILLIAM HEILMAN

KARL WILLIAMS

MICHAEL R. MAGIERA

ROGER R. DUGUAY, JR

RAYMOND REMILLARD

**TOWN COUNCIL OF PALMER**

**RESULTS OF STATE ELECTION  
NOVEMBER 2010  
TOWN OF PALMER**

<b>Governor and Lieutenant Governor</b>	<b>Votes</b>	<b>Party</b>
Patrick and Murray	1577	Democrat
Baker and Tisei	1862	Republican
Cahill and Loscocco	686	Unenrolled
Stein and Purcell	131	Green-Rainbow

**Attorney General**

Martha Coakley	2277	Democrat
James P. McKenna	1927	Republican

**Secretary of State**

William Francis Galvin	2346	Democrat
William C. Campbell	1601	Republican
James D. Henderson	155	Unenrolled

**Treasurer**

Steven Grossman	1975	Democrat
Karyn E. Polito	2121	Republican

**Auditor**

Suzanne M. Bump	1741	Democrat
Mary Z. Connaughton	1933	Republican
Nathaniel Alexander Fort	275	Green-Rainbow

Richard E. Neal	2364	Democrat
Thomas A Wesley	1852	Republican
<b>Councilor</b>		
Jennie L. Cassie	2044	Republican
Francis A. Ford	1739	Democrat
<b>Senator in General Court</b>		
Stephan M. Brewer	2896	Democrat
Daniel D. Dubrule	1216	Republican
<b>District Attorney</b>		
Stephen J. Buoniconti	1627	Democrat
Mark G. Mastroianni	2519	Unenrolled
<b>Sheriff</b>		
Michael J. Ashe, Jr.	3166	Democrat
<b>Representative in General Court</b>		
Todd M. Smola	3539	Republican
<b>Question 1</b>		
Yes	2204	
No	1934	
<b>Question 2</b>		
Yes	1588	
No	2359	
<b>Question 3</b>		
Yes	1906	
No	2246	
<b>Question 4</b>		
Yes	2518	
No	1328	
<b>Question 5</b>		
Yes	2166	
No	1817	

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia C. Donovan, Town Clerk

The Palmer Conservation Commission consists of six volunteer members who protect the Palmer Township’s natural resources under the local bylaws and the wetland protection act. Over the past 12 months the Commission has acted upon or issued the following summary:

70 Site Inspections
4 Requests for Determination
9 Notices of Intent
9 Orders of Conditions

The Palmer Conservation Commission has been conserving and protecting the town’s wetlands and waterways for over 40 years. We express tremendous gratitude to David Johnson, the Chairman of the Conservation Commission, for his dedication and hard work. His wealth of knowledge and experience is invaluable to the town. We are *extremely* fortunate to have all the members, as they are great assets to the town.

The Commission will continue to work diligently to protect Palmer’s precious natural resources. The Commission holds meetings on the first and third Tuesdays of each month; the meetings begin at 7:00pm and are open to the public.

Respectfully submitted,

David Johnson, Chairman	Peter Izyk
Donald Duffy, Vice Chairman	Christine Beauregard
Robert Ring	Matthew Trybus

The Palmer Planning Board, consisting of five elected members, met regularly during the twelve-month period of July 1, 2009 thru June 30, 2010. It is the Board’s policy to meet as often as necessary to conduct business deemed appropriate under General Laws and the Charter of the Town of Palmer, generally the first and third Mondays of each month if meeting space is available.

The Planning Department is comprised of the following elected members and staff.

<u>Elected Board Members</u>	
Chairman	Michael S. Marciniec
Vice Chairman	Norman Czech
Clerk	James Haley, Jr. Thomas Skowyra Diane France
<u>Staff</u>	
Town Planner	Linda Leduc

During the past 12-months, the Planning Board held twenty-one regular meetings and one special meeting, as well as conducted numerous site inspections and review inspections. In addition to our own meetings, we have also had meetings with other Boards and Committees and have attended seminars and workshops to help better prepare our members for the positions for which they have been elected. During these various public meetings, the Board held hearings or acted on nine Special Permits, including five Special Permits for Earth Removal, two Site Plan Approvals, and thirteen Subdivision Approval Not Required (SANR) plans that meet current zoning requirements and are deemed exempt from subdivision regulations. There were two special permit amendments issued and one Finding granted and two hearings held on zoning amendments, which were ultimately did not gain approval.

During 2010 the Planning Department lost its principal clerk position. This position provided service to the Planning Department, Planning Board, Conservation Commission, Zoning Board of Appeals, and provided initial contact for members of the public on a daily basis. Clearly this has had some impacts on our daily operations.

This fiscal year has been a reflection of the downturn in the economy, as the number of permit applications has been significantly reduced. Besides the five annual earth removal applications, the board reviewed and approved of only four other special permits; two home occupations, one under the flexible setback ordinance, and one for a commercial sign on Park Street. This lull in permitting, however, has allowed the Board to work on numerous other pertinent issues, many of which revolve around green initiatives. The Board endorsed a grant application created in response to the Division of Energy Resources energy audit. This stimulus grant in the amount of \$18,722 was funded by the American Recovery and Redevelopment Act and resulted in approval for construction of a solar thermal domestic hot water system on the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Directly related to this initiative is the Board’s endorsement of the town’s pursuit of becoming a Green Community under the Green Community Act. The designation was awarded to the



funding for implementation of the green energy initiatives. A Green Communities Grant application was submitted in June with an award made in the amount of \$169,103 for installation of energy efficient upgrades in the Town Administration building.

The Board, through Energy Committee representation, has participated in bi-monthly meetings with Siemens Building Technologies, which has been contracted to perform an investment grade audit of seven town buildings. This all-inclusive analysis will present the town with options for energy savings gained through capital improvements. The town will be presented with a menu-style plan of action. Through a process of cost analysis versus procurement costs a decision will be made on which improvements are viable for inclusion in a performance contract.

In April of 2010, the Planning Board endorsed a cooperative study of the Route 32 corridor from the Massachusetts Turnpike Exit in Palmer to the downtown business district in Ware. The Pioneer Valley Planning Commission is assisting both communities in the process of data collection and public outreach. The purpose of this study is to determine available land along the corridor and restrictions on use or development. From this information and public forum process, the Planning Commission will develop a report containing strategies and best practices for future development along this roadway.

The Board continues to work on improving its site design standards. These will be implemented through amendment of our current Site Plan Review criteria. Additionally, the Board participated in writing both a commercial solar and combination small wind/commercial wind ordinance. Both are in final draft form and hopes are that they will be ready for public input this next fiscal year. With the ever-changing technology in the area of power generation and conservation and in consideration of the federal and state incentives that are currently being offered, we continue to pursue promising programs that will benefit the residents by stabilizing our energy costs and replacing aging infrastructure.

The Re-use Ideas competition, sponsored by the Valley Development Council and Western Massachusetts American Institute of Architects, for which The Energy Thorndike Mill complex was chosen as a design site was concluded in April. The international competition supplied numerous designs, which were displayed at the Palmer Public Library during the month of March. This gave the public an opportunity for viewing and voting on a People's Choice award. The designs for the mill site have provided much food for thought and a vision for future development and use of this site.

In closing, the Planning Board would like to thank the citizens of Palmer, elected officials, town boards and the Planning Department staff for assisting us in our planning endeavors.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael S. Marciniak,  
Chairman

## **BUILDING DEPARTMENT**

	<b>FY09</b>
New Single Family Dwellings	3
New Two Family Dwellings	1
New Commercial	1
New Condominiums	0
Additions to Residential Buildings	7
Additions to Commercial Buildings	6
Renovations to Residential Buildings	71
Renovations to Commercial Buildings	11
Replace Mobile Home	1
Barns	2
Carports	2
Decks	60
Demolitions	28
Garages	9
Gazebo	0
Pools Above Ground	13
Pools In Ground	5
Roofing, Siding & Window Permits	283
Sheds	37
Signs	16
Wood Burning Stove Permits	78
Occupancy Permits	59
Total	693
Other Inspections	727
Electrical Permits	260
Plumbing Permits	100
Gas Permits	71
Total	1158
Revenues	<b>FY09</b>
Building Department	<b>\$46,970</b>

## **SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES**

I hereby submit the report for the Department of Weights & Measures ending June 30, 2010. So far this year, a total of 101 measuring and weighing devices were tested and sealed. Fees charged for these tests totaled \$1,660.00 that was turned into the treasurer. A total of 2 complaints have been received so far this year. They were followed up on and corrected.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joseph Serrato,  
Sealer of Weights and Measures

### Percolation Test and Septic Designs

The Board of Health witnessed, collected fees and issued permits for eleven (11) Percolation Tests and eleven (11) Septic Designs that were reviewed and approved by the Board during the year 2008-2009.

### Housing and Food Inspections and Investigations

The Board of Health, for the health and safety of the occupants, made thirty-one Housing Inspections. Violations were corrected to meet the standards of the State Sanitary Code. Over two hundred Inspections and Investigations were made by the Board of Health to comply with Regulations and Laws pertaining to Public Health.

### Flu Vaccine Clinics

A total of 500 doses of Influenza vaccine were administered to various segments of the citizenry of the town of Palmer and its 3 villages. Immunization clinics were held at the Converse Middle School, Palmer High School, Palmer Senior Center, Palmer Green Estates, St. Peter and Paul Parish Hall and at the Wing Memorial Hospital. This total included homebound citizens in private homes and senior living facilities in town. It also included Emergency Service Personnel from the ambulance, fire and police services.

### Tobacco Control Program Grant

The Governor of Massachusetts vetoed the Tobacco Control Program Grant.

### Hampden County Health Coalition

The Health Coalition has given funds to the town of Palmer Board of Health and the money was allocated for training for emergency preparedness, refrigerator for emergencies and numerous office supplies that are needed.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul E. Benard, Chairperson  
John Lukaskiewicz  
Jayne Heede

## **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

The Palmer Community Development Department is located in the Town Administration Building at 4417 Main Street Palmer. The office is open Monday – Friday from 9:00am to 4:30pm.

The Community Development Department was established in 1991 for the purpose of administering a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for the Town of Palmer. Over the years the department has expanded its services by becoming a Local Rehabilitation Agency for the Massachusetts Housing Finance Agency, and by applying for and receiving grants from other agencies/programs.

The Community Development Block Grant Program is funded under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 as amended. The primary objective of the statute is “... *to develop viable, urban communities by providing decent housing and suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities principally for low – moderate income persons.*”

The Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development encourages: programs which develop and preserve affordable housing; planning toward both resource protection and sustainable economic activity; downtown revitalization integral to community development; and community-based planning that assesses needs and identifies strategies for addressing those needs. Projects eligible for funding under the Massachusetts Community Development Block Grant Program include: planning; housing rehabilitation and creation of affordable housing; economic development projects which create and/or retain jobs; efforts directed toward rehabilitation and stabilization of existing neighborhoods, commercial areas and downtowns; infrastructure; construction and/or rehabilitation of community facilities; and public social services.

The Palmer Community Development Department relies entirely on grant dollars to finance its projects and operate its office. The Town of Palmer provides space, heat and electricity.

During FY09 the Community Development Department administered the following grants:

✓ FFY07 Community Development Block Grant Program

Total expenditures in FY10: \$12,423.17 expended for demolition project; \$27,843.10 expended for Housing Rehabilitation Administration, \$120,378.37 expended for Housing Rehabilitation Deferred Payment Loans, \$4,469.51 for Public Service Program Administration, \$1,108.82 for Public Services, and \$50,600.64 for General Program Administration.

On July 11, 2007 the Town of Palmer was awarded \$815,679 from the Massachusetts Community Development Block Grant Program. These funds were awarded to finance: \$29,487 of Housing Rehabilitation Administration; \$25,000 to be supplemented with \$40,000 in program income funds to finance three (3) Housing Rehabilitation Deferred Payment Loans; \$41,935 of Public Facility/Infrastructure Program Administration; \$107,864 to be supplemented with \$39,988 in in-kind services and a cash contribution to reclaim and repave 1,800 square yards of Fox Street, to reconstruct 725’ of sidewalk parallel to Fox Street including ADA features; \$186,203 to be supplemented with \$41,000 of in kind services and a cash contribution for the replacement of 610’ of water main servicing Fox Street, \$127,198 to be supplemented with \$36,200 of in kind services and a cash contribution for the replacement of 800’ of sanitary sewer main servicing Fox street, \$142,805 to be supplemented with \$2,342 of in kind services for the replacement of 635’ storm drain servicing Fox Street, \$9,727 for Public Service program administration, \$50,000 to provide financial literacy education to 30 low to moderate income Palmer Residents and to create a

services, and \$95,400 for General Program Administration.

As of June 30, 2010 the Palmer Community Development Department has expended \$13,423.17 for demolition; \$62,871.62 for Housing Rehabilitation Administration, \$282,851.39 (includes \$40,000.00 in Program Income Funds) expended for Housing Rehabilitation Deferred Payment Loans, \$7,932.38 for Public Facilities Administration, \$176,197.24 (includes \$33,000 from the Department of Public Works) for upgrades to the Streets and Sidewalks servicing Fox Street, including engineering and construction oversight, \$113,366.29 (includes \$33,000 from the Palmer Water District) for the replacement of water mains and hydrants servicing Fox Street including engineering and construction oversight, \$74,836.88 (includes \$33,000 from the Waste Water Treatment Department) for the replacement of the sanitary sewer servicing Fox Street including engineering and construction oversight, \$56,923.72 for the replacement of the storm drainage system servicing Fox Street, including engineering and construction oversight, \$9,148.40 for Public Service Program Administration, \$12,000.00 for the Domestic Violence Task Force, \$28,400.00 for Financial Literacy Education, and \$95,460.00 for General Program Administration.

✓ FFY08 Community Development Block Grant Program

Total expenditures in FY10: \$6,431.92 expended to administer the Rehabilitation of Memorial Hall Project; \$673,213.24 rehabilitation of Memorial Hall; \$332.33 for Public Service Program Administration, \$59,424.89 for Public Services, and \$53,859.72 for General Program Administration.

On September 29, 2008 the Town of Palmer was awarded \$836,585 from the Massachusetts Community Development Block Grant Program. These funds were awarded to finance: \$44,294 of Public Facility Program Administration; \$733,585 to rehabilitate Memorial Hall; and \$58,706 for General Administration. On January 27, 2009 the Town of Palmer was awarded \$74,706 in additional funding from the Massachusetts Community Development Block Grant Program. These funds were awarded to finance: \$4,706 in Public Service Administration and \$70,000 for Public Services.

As of June 30, 2010 the Palmer Community Development Department has expended \$19,911.07 to administer the Rehabilitation of Memorial Hall Project; \$673,213.24 to rehabilitate Memorial Hall; \$332.33 to administer the Social Service Projects; \$64,468.81 for Domestic Violence and Senior Volunteer Services; and \$60,298.07 for General Administration.

✓ Economic Development Fund

Total expenditures in FY10: \$42,784.30 for Community Economic Development Administration; \$124,000.00 for For Profit Loans; \$73,200.00 for Micro enterprise loans; \$9,419.75 for Social Service program administration; \$16,833.14 for social service activities; and \$21,055.28 for General Administration.

of Belchertown, Brimfield, Brookfield, East Brookfield, Hardwick, Holland, Monson, New Braintree, North Brookfield, Spencer, Wales, Ware, Warren, and West Brookfield was awarded \$500,000 from the Massachusetts Economic Development Fund Program to finance \$69,598 for Community Economic Development Administration, \$160,000 for For Profit Loans to create and/or retain 16 jobs in the region, \$156,000 for Micro enterprise loans to create/retain 6 jobs in the region, \$10,989 for Public Service Program Administration, \$35,000 for 110 tuition waivers for computer training and business planning training, and \$68,413 for General Program Administration. The proposed program will be managed by the Quaboag Valley Business Assistance Corporation (QVBAC), a private non-profit corporation, whose activities are administered by the Quaboag Valley Community Development Corporation (QV CDC).

As of June 30, 2010 the Quaboag Valley Community Development Corporation has expended: \$79,052.00 for Community Economic Development Administration; \$150,480.00 for For Profit Loans; \$129,200.00 for Micro enterprise loans; \$21,048.00 for Social Service program administration; \$25,933.14 for social service activities; and \$39,576.00 for General Administration.

From 1991 – 2010 The Palmer Community Development Department has expended grant funds totaling \$14,175,036 (86% of all expenditures). These funds came from the following sources: \$10,481,641 (74%) from Community Development Fund; \$2,299,847 (16%) Ready Resource Fund; \$400,000 (3%) Community Development Action Grant; \$246,113 (1.7%) MassHousing Get the Lead Out; \$210,000 (1.5%) Massachusetts Turnpike Tourism Program; \$122,413 (.9%) HOME Program; \$120,946 (.9%) Downtown Revitalization Program; \$97,538 (.7%) USDA Housing Improvement Program; \$56,639 (.4%) MassHousing Home Improvement Loan Program; \$50,000 (.4%) Urban Self Help; \$29,050 (.2%) MassHousing Neighborhood Improvement Program; \$28,350 (.2%) from Municipal Incentive Grant; \$25,000 (.2%) Massachusetts Government Land Bank; \$6,500 (.05%) Massachusetts Downtown Initiative; and \$1,000 (.01%) Peer to Peer.

The Community Development Department leveraged \$1,176,790 in additional funds from the following sources: \$947,790 (81%) private investment; \$103,000 (9%) Water District contributions; \$60,000 (5%) Town of Palmer appropriation; \$33,000 (3%) Chapter 90; \$33,000 (3%) WWTP funds.

Grant funds repaid by homeowners and reused by the Department totaled \$944,304  
The Community Development Department secured in kind services valued at \$182,913

From 1991 – 2010 the Palmer Community Development Department has funded the following projects:

Housing Rehabilitation \$5,189,011 (323 housing units; 746 residents); Administration \$2,272,863;

Water Main Replacement/Relining/New Construction \$1,302,735 (14,160 linear feet; 164 housing units; 137 residents); Sidewalk Reconstruction Depot Village \$1,066,563 (3,025 linear feet); Memorial Hall Improvements \$1,026,410; Regional Small Business Loans \$992,376 (13 loans; 27 jobs created); Regional Microenterprise Loans \$945,559 (29

Main Street Depot Village Parking Lot \$442,050; Streets & Sidewalks (Chestnut, Arch, Fox) \$392,038 (2,350 linear feet; 39 homes; 101 residents); Revolving Loan Fund Administration \$366,385; Services for Senior Citizens \$226,307 (306 residents); Sewer Main Replacement \$182,393 (1,925 linear feet; 39 homes; 101 residents); Regional Housing Workshops \$179,758 (2,150 residents); Purchase Holbrook Site \$160,000; Depot Village Park Construction \$151,278; Day Care Subsidies \$150,232 (103 residents); Depot Village Studies \$123,938; Storm Main Replacement \$97,075 (1,355 linear feet; 39 homes; 101 residents); Upgrade Pedestrian Crossings (Park/Thorndike, Main St Depot) \$95,000; Signs, Banners, Brochures \$80,000; Walnut Street Parking Lot \$72,429; Palmer Downtown Partnership Support \$62,194; Domestic Violence Initiatives \$59,350 (341 residents); Improvements to Chase Memorial Park \$50,000; Sidewalk Construction Thorndike \$40,040 (1,500 linear feet); Regional Business Training Waivers \$38,701 (379 residents); Financial Literacy Education \$36,400 (48 residents); Playground Rehabilitation (Eager & Thorndike) \$35,592; Railroad Research & Visitor Info Center \$30,000; Marketing Plan for Holbrook Site \$27,573; Parent Education Classes \$26,923 (3 residents); Water Department Consolidation Study \$22,765; Feasibility Study Railroad Museum Relocation \$19,878; Adult Literacy \$19,345 (94 residents); Concerts & Hayrides \$5,000; Planning for Casino Assistance \$1,000.

Total physical improvements to Private Property contribution)	\$5,857,955 (16% private contribution)
Total physical improvements to Public Property	\$5,194,209 (4% public contribution)
Total Administration	\$2,639,248
Total Economic Development expenditures	\$2,366,451
Total Social Service expenditures	\$368,325
Other	\$52,856

Respectfully submitted by:  
Alice Davey, Community Development Director

## **COUNCIL ON AGING**

The mission of the Palmer Council on Aging/Senior Center is to identify the total needs of the senior population, to promote and encourage new and existing activities, to provide services and education to enhance the quality of life for elders and to assist elders to age with dignity and independence.

Senior Center staff is obliged to create an atmosphere that acknowledges the value of human life, affirms the dignity and self-worth of the older adult participant, and maintains a climate of respect, trust and support. Within this atmosphere, the staff creates opportunities for older adults to apply their wisdom, experience and insight and to exercise their skills.

### **Council on Aging Board Members**

Ernie Charland, Chairperson  
Genevieve Bates, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair  
Debbie Strauss, Secretary  
Mary Hubert, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair  
Ed Bradlenski

Betty Ross  
Gloria Brouillette  
Pearl Coyer  
Audrey Julian  
Alice J. Smith

The Council on Aging/Senior Center was relocated to the Second Congregational Church, 1080 Pleasant Street from July 1, 2009 until February 5, 2010 due to the renovation of Memorial Hall. This funding for the renovation was provided from CDBG monies. Due to lack of space at the church many of our programs were not held such as exercise classes, line dancing, etc. The lunch program and social work aspects were continued on a regular basis. The transition was difficult for seniors and staff alike but we got through it!!

The Council on Aging provided a broad range of services to Palmer's 60+ population during the year July 1, 2009 thru June 30, 2010. Of the 2,361 Senior Citizen's of Palmer, approximately 1,100 unduplicated elders received a direct service from the Council on Aging. Twelve issues of the Senior Center newsletters were printed and a total of 800 per month were distributed.

To care for the physical needs of our 60+ population, cholesterol, glucose and blood pressure screenings available weekly with Margarita Canuel, RN, Wing Hospital, hearing screenings, eye care, foot care, massage therapy, exercise programs, line dancing & nutrition classes were provided at the Palmer Senior Center. Seventeen speakers engaged to discuss health related issues. Medical equipment was available to be loaned at no charge as needed and fifty-one individuals took advantage of this program. Wing Memorial Hospital provided the senior center with a nurse for 6 hours a week and she provided 415 services. The Arthritis Foundation certified instructor held exercise class one day a week.

A congregate meal program was held at the Palmer Senior Center, sponsored through Greater Springfield Senior Services, Inc. and the Council on Aging providing 3,473 meals. The Council on Aging continues to provide supportive services to homebound elders. In Home Meals provided 67 frail elders with a hot meal five days a week, totaling 8,307 meals.

1,260 Brown Bags were distributed to 124 seniors as part of the Western MA Food Bank Program for Seniors. Fifteen seniors received fresh vegetables from the Farmshare Program, part of the Community Involved in Sustaining Agriculture at no cost. They received \$10.00 per week worth of fresh vegetables for 10 weeks provided by Sully's Farm of Belchertown.

In and Out of Town Van Transportation: 131 unduplicated passengers, including 34 passengers under 60 utilized this service. 4,764 trips were taken totaling 13,753 miles.

Individuals were helped through the Free AARP Income Tax Program. Tax Assistance, transportation, information and referrals and congregate meals were also available to those under age 60 who are disabled. We held a celebration for every holiday and our



Luncheon due to lack of space at the church.

10,564 signatures were acquired from the Senior Center daily registration sheets. 11,312 phone calls were taken and 1,683 calls were from those under age 60.

There were 100 deaths of persons over the age of 60.

## **GRANT FUNDING**

\$16,527.00 in Formula Grant money was awarded to the Palmer Council on Aging from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs in Boston for an Outreach Service Coordinator, Activities Coordinator & Volunteer Coordinator. An Outreach Service Coordinator accesses and assesses the 60+ population to all Federal, State and County Programs they may be entitled to. There were a total of 757 visits made to seniors in home or at the senior center. There were a total of 642 unduplicated units of service provided by the Outreach Service Coordinator. There were a total of 1,860 units of service provided to seniors. The Volunteer Coordinator supervised sixty-five volunteers who continued to assist in various programs and activities and home assistance and transportation to doctors and grocery shopping. A total of 4,200 volunteer hours were donated to the Senior Center. If paid \$8.00 per hour, they contributed \$33,600.00 worth of service. The Senior Volunteer Program which provides \$8.25 per hour stipend included 10 workers and provided 1117 units of service.

\$13,428.00 Title IIIB Grant awarded to the Palmer Council on Aging from Greater Springfield Senior Services for the Outreach Position for 12 hours/week.

\$8,100.00 was awarded from Country Bank to purchase appliances for new kitchen.

\$25,000.00 CDBG Monies for the Volunteer Coordinator and stipends for volunteers was provided from the prior years grant.

\$200.00 was awarded from CISA to provide 12 seniors on the Farmshare Program with vegetable steamers.

\$1,270.00 was awarded from the Palmer Cultural Council Grants for various programs.

\$500.00 was awarded from Hebrew Life Center for Healthy Eating Program.

\$500.00 was awarded from Harvard Pilgrim Health Care for Health Related purchases.

\$1,236.38 was awarded from Greater Springfield Senior Services to purchase two way radio system for vans, microwave table and kitchen countertop-storage unit.

The Palmer Council on Aging has a wonderful organization whose members work very hard at fundraising to benefit the seniors of the Town of Palmer. The Friends of the Palmer Senior Center gave generously to purchase items for the senior center in 2009-2010. The FOPSC purchased new furniture for the entire senior center and purchased other items. They donated \$18,500.00 fiscal year 2010. Thanks for all your hard work to improve our senior center.

I would like to thank all of the staff, volunteers and the Council on Aging Board Members for all the work that they do all year. They are very dedicated and caring people who strive to provide the best services for the elders in Palmer.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin Pincince  
Executive Director

### **DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' SERVICE**

As I reported last year my office went on line for Veterans benefits (Chapter 115) and I would like to say it is working very well. I am once again seeing more and more veterans out of work and coming to the Veterans' Office for assistance. If you are a veteran living in Palmer and need assistance, I am here to help guide you to where you may be able to find relief. I am once again with the aging veterans' population seeing more Veterans wanting to file for Benefits through the Veterans Administration

All Iraqi/ Afghanistan Veterans should come by my office to file a copy of their Discharge (DD 214, actually all veterans should file their discharge with the office), ask questions about what is available to them and just get acquainted with what my office has to offer them. The number for the office is 413-283-2610, Office hours are Tuesday and Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Wednesday afternoon by appointment and if you can not make it during these hours an appointment can be made to fit your schedule

The Town of Palmer and the Veterans Office stay committed to the Veterans of Palmer.

Respectfully submitted,

MARK A. AVIS  
Director of Veterans' Service

PALMER HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
TOWN REPORT – JULY 1, 2009 – JUNE 30, 2010

The Palmer Historical Commission's monthly meetings are held on the last Wednesday of each month. At these meetings, which are open to the public, topics of historical significance as they pertain to the Town of Palmer are discussed. In addition, donations of historical items are always welcome and are acknowledged.

The Historical Commission is continuing to work with the staff of Palmer Community Development on the Memorial Hall Restoration Project. During this restoration project, workers found two intact arches beneath an old wall, which will be saved.

The Commission is continuing its on-going project to catalog and file Palmer's historical data in the History Room at the Palmer Public Library. This room has proven to be a valuable resource for historical researchers and genealogists.

The Commission participated in Palmer's Nostalgia Day on September 12, 2009, and helped coordinate the horse and carriage rides through the areas of King and Squire Streets.

In October, 2009, member Rose Riskalla tendered her resignation as a member of the commission. Her dedication and attention to detail in carrying out her historic assignments will be greatly missed.

Election of Officers took place at the April 24, 2010 meeting:

Robert J. Ring, Chairman, Marion F. Lis, Treasurer, Lorraine Y. Novak, Secretary

In April, Bob Steele was appointed a member of the Palmer Historical Commission.

On May 30, 2010, the Historical Commission participated in a Memorial Service at Quabbin Park Cemetery to commemorate the lives of those who once lived in the four towns, which are now covered by the waters of the Quabbin Reservoir.

Respectfully submitted,

PALMER HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Robert J. Ring	Stephen M. Nowak	Lorraine Y. Novak	Eric Raymond
Marion F. Lis	Harold Olson	Robert Steele	

## **LICENSE COMMISSION**

The following is a summary of the licenses and fees collected for the 2008-2009 year.

### **All Alcoholic Beverage License:**

Type	#	Fee	Total
Inn Holder	1	\$800.00	\$800.00
Club	5	\$800.00	\$4,000.00
Retail Package Store	4	\$665.00	\$2,660.00
Seasonal	1	\$400.00	\$400.00
Restaurant	13	\$800.00	\$10,400.00

### **Wine and Malt Beverage License**

Retail Package Store	3	\$520.00	\$1,560.00
Restaurant	2	\$520.00	\$1,040.00
Restaurant with Cordials	2	\$565.00	\$1,130.00

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard L. Fitzgerald, Chairman  
Robert P. Frydryk  
Dennis Gaudreau  
Theodore Simard  
Michael Magiera

## **PALMER HOUSING AUTHORITY**

The office of the Palmer Housing Authority and the development known as Laurel Manor is located at 13 Fletcher Street. The complex consists of 48 one bedroom units, which operates under the State Chapter 667 Elderly/Handicapped Program. The Palmer Housing Authority was first occupied in January of 1971.

All rules and regulations are promulgated by the Department of Housing and Community Development, adopted by the Palmer Housing Authority Board of Commissioners and carried out by the staff. Applications can be obtained in the office during office hours or by calling the office at 283-9311. Eligibility is based on age and income. Currently applicants need to be 60 years of age or be eligible handicapped/disabled. Income limits are \$41,450 for one person and \$47,350 for two persons. Local preference is given to eligible applicants. Seven vacancies were filled between July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010 of which all persons were local residents and or local veterans.

The Board of Commissioners meets monthly to conduct the authority business. The Board consists of 4 members that are appointed by the Town Manager and one state appointed member. Regular monthly meetings are held in the community room located at 13 Fletcher Street on the third Wednesday of the month starting at 4:00 P.M.

facility for those in need.

Respectfully submitted,

Veronica A. Strzemienski, Chairperson  
Ronald W. Lemanski, Vice Chairperson  
Germaine Lefebvre, Treasurer/State Appointee  
Margaret Higgins, Assistant Treasurer  
Mildred Jasak, Commissioner

## **ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

The Palmer Zoning Board of Appeals received 1 application for various transactions to meet the dimensional requirements to the Town of Palmer Zoning Ordinances for the time period of July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010.

The Board held public hearings on all petitions received according to the provisions of Chapter 40-A, Section 11, of the Massachusetts General Laws. As a result of the hearing, 1 Variance was filed and denied. Two other meetings were held for the purposes of releasing units for sale at Crystal Lake Village as required under the covenant associated with the comprehensive permit.

Income from the Board amounted to \$100.00. These fees are collected to cover the expense of the public hearing.

Respectfully submitted,

Antonio Andre, Chairman  
Norman Czech, Vice Chairman  
Ingrid Thompson, Clerk  
Gary Doane, Alternate

Russell Brown, Member  
Dennis Fountain, Member  
Walter Solzak, Alternate

**DEPARTMENT OF MUNICIPAL FINANCE**  
**FY10 Appropriation Report**

Dept.	Dept. Name	Function	Encumbered From 2009	Original Appropriation	Transfers/ Amendments	Revised Budget	Expended	Balance	Encumbered To 2011	Ending Balance
111	Town Council	Stipend		1,000.00		1,000.00	600.00	400.00		400.00
		Expenditures		250.00	500.00	750.00	540.15	209.85		209.85
123	Town Manager	Salaries		152,451.00	53,725.54	206,176.54	205,995.79	180.75		180.75
		Expenditures		20,615.00	19,500.00	40,115.00	20,961.33	19,153.67	19,152.75	0.92
130	Audit	Expenditures		21,000.00	(1,000.00)	20,000.00	20,000.00	-		-
132	Reserve	Transfers		19,336.00	(17,066.12)	2,269.88		2,269.88		2,269.88
	Actuarial Study	Expense	15,000.00	-	(8,000.00)	7,000.00	7,000.00	-		-
135	Accountant	Salaries		62,014.00	2,453.54	64,467.54	64,071.47	396.07		396.07
		Expenses		4,692.00		4,692.00	4,227.00	465.00		465.00
137	Central Purch.	Expenses		243,500.00	(3,250.00)	240,250.00	203,527.61	36,722.39		36,722.39
141	Assessors	Salaries		81,020.00	1,894.13	82,914.13	82,632.36	281.77		281.77
		Expenses	13,580.00	40,575.00	16,000.00	70,155.00	33,918.53	36,236.47	18,700.00	17,536.47
		Revaluation							17,274.50	
146	Treas/Collector	Salaries		142,626.00	9,349.16	151,975.16	152,823.11	(847.95)		(847.95)
		Expenses		17,385.00	(2,907.72)	14,477.28	12,066.70	2,410.58	1,300.00	1,110.58
	Tax Title	Expenses	594.39	10,000.00	127,440.00	138,034.39	61,017.97	77,016.42	77,016.42	-
						-		-		-
151	Laws & Claims	Salaries		21,000.00		21,000.00	21,000.00	-		-
		Contract		11,200.00	2,750.00	13,950.00	13,013.98	936.02		936.02
155	Computer Maint.	Expenses		62,206.00		62,206.00	62,167.80	38.20		38.20
161	Town Clerk	Salaries		80,810.00	3,085.69	83,895.69	83,895.69	-		-
		Expenses	23.00	1,275.00		1,298.00	1,125.38	172.62	172.62	-
162	Elections & Reg	Salaries	135.46	8,257.00	8,810.50	17,202.96	17,202.96	-		-
		Expenses		4,900.00	2,939.50	7,839.50	7,839.50	-		-
171	Conservation	Salaries		612.00		612.00	612.00	-		-

		Expenses		1,375.00		1,375.00	906.60	468.40		468.40
175	Planning Board	Salaries		71,036.00	(4,041.91)	66,994.09	66,347.77	646.32		646.32
		Expenses		5,050.00	(1,000.00)	4,050.00	1,223.98	2,826.02		2,826.02
176	Board of Appeals	Expenditures				-		-		-
192	Building	Custodian			3,500.00	3,500.00	3,466.16	33.84		33.84
		Expenses	9.00	47,250.00	(3,500.00)	43,759.00	42,128.79	1,630.21		1,630.21
193	Memorial Hall	Custodian		6,056.00	177.44	6,233.44	6,010.78	222.66		222.66
		Expenses		7,350.00	2,000.00	9,350.00	8,491.64	858.36		858.36
		Bldg. Maint.		750.00		750.00	750.00	-		-
195	Town Reports	Expenses				-		-		-
210	Police	Salaries	56.75	1,656,585.00	27,207.26	1,683,849.01	1,609,515.95	74,333.06		74,333.06
		Expenses	771.05	44,075.00	150.00	44,996.05	44,635.74	360.31	360.00	0.31
		Contract Serv.		52,600.00		52,600.00	52,600.00	-		-
		Utilities		300.00		300.00	227.42	72.58	26.00	46.58
		Cruisers		30,000.00	(150.00)	29,850.00	28,664.85	1,185.15		1,185.15
220	Forest Warden	Salaries		2,500.00		2,500.00	2,499.96	0.04		0.04
		Expenses		150.00		150.00		150.00		150.00
241	Building Inspec.	Salaries		47,566.00	1,452.59	49,018.59	49,011.81	6.78		6.78
		Expenses		250.00		250.00	165.99	84.01		84.01
244	Sealer	Salaries		2,750.00		2,750.00	2,750.00	-		-
		Expenses		250.00		250.00	144.53	105.47		105.47
291	Civil Defense	Salaries		3,500.00		3,500.00	3,500.00	-		-
		Expenditures		500.00		500.00	196.61	303.39		303.39
292	Dog Officer	Salaries		18,087.00		18,087.00	18,087.00	-		-
		Expenses		3,300.00		3,300.00	2,441.25	858.75	152.00	706.75
293	Animal Insp.	Salaries		1,448.00		1,448.00	1,448.00	-		-
294	Forestry	Expenses		20,000.00		20,000.00	20,000.00	-		-
310	Schools	Salaries	1,750,591.95	10,767,301.00	(261,100.21)	12,256,792.74	10,563,589.97	1,693,202.77	1,693,202.77	(0.00)
		Expenses	79,429.15	4,497,109.00	238,222.30	4,814,760.45	4,657,351.02	157,409.43	145,373.00	12,036.43
		Locker Replace			25,000.00	25,000.00		25,000.00	25,000.00	-
		Matching Grant			9,850.00	9,850.00		9,850.00	9,850.00	-

		Unpaid prior yr		22,877.91	22,877.91	22,877.91	-	-
320	Pathfinder	Assessment	1,770,185.00		1,770,185.00	1,770,185.00	-	-
422	Hwy Construction	Maintenance			-		-	-
423	Snow & Ice	Overtime	18,000.00		18,000.00	43,815.76	(25,815.76)	(25,815.76)
		Supplies	49,425.00		49,425.00	220,446.93	(171,021.93)	(171,021.93)
424	Street Lights	Expenses	100,000.00	2,418.07	102,418.07	96,509.43	5,908.64	5,908.64
433	Waste Removal	Expenses	14,500.00		14,500.00	12,176.49	2,323.51	2,323.51
435	Ground Water	Expenses	16,000.00		16,000.00	13,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
490	Public Works	Salaries	689,282.00	39,509.17	728,791.17	721,494.16	7,297.01	7,297.01
		Admin. Exp.	168.30	47,250.00	4,825.00	52,243.30	51,713.88	529.42
		Maint. Exp.	495.00	115,550.00	(2,910.86)	113,134.14	110,020.78	3,113.36
		Utilities		15,500.00	1,500.00	17,000.00	15,388.51	1,611.49
		Capital	75,640.73	6,000.00	(500.00)	81,140.73	80,623.04	517.69
510	BOH	Salaries		21,402.00	638.31	22,040.31	20,956.72	1,083.59
		Expenses		850.00		850.00	281.80	568.20
523	Human Services	Expenses		2,125.00		2,125.00	2,125.00	-
541	COA	Salaries		94,014.00	3,346.69	97,360.69	93,348.19	4,012.50
		Expenses		2,300.00		2,300.00	2,205.98	94.02
543	Veterans	Salaries		11,097.00	341.44	11,438.44	11,438.14	0.30
		Expenses		1,000.00		1,000.00	907.24	92.76
		Misc. & Ben.		67,000.00	40,000.00	107,000.00	95,094.88	11,905.12
610	Library	Salaries		466,402.00	(14,869.00)	451,533.00	451,532.73	0.27
		Expenses		243,155.00	26,117.00	269,272.00	269,272.00	-
630	Recreation	Salaries		18,000.00	(1,500.00)	16,500.00		16,500.00
		Expenses		2,000.00	1,500.00	3,500.00	1,500.00	2,000.00
692	Memorial Day	Expenses		2,000.00		2,000.00	1,642.18	357.82
710	Debt Principal			3,246,144.00		3,246,144.00	3,245,841.38	302.62
751	Debt Interest			368,485.00		368,485.00	367,229.51	1,255.49
910	County Retirem.	Assessment		1,234,772.00		1,234,772.00	1,234,772.00	-
913	Unemployment		2,090.75	387,231.00	(123,338.68)	265,983.07	157,341.50	108,641.57
914	Group Health Ins			3,905,704.00	(62.94)	3,905,641.06	3,865,541.19	40,099.87



915	Group Life Ins.		14,224.00	62.94	14,286.94	14,286.94	-	-
919	Medicare		224,000.00		224,000.00	200,279.94	23,720.06	23,720.06
940	Payroll Adj. Reserve	55,000.00	35,000.00	(61,152.06)	28,847.94	28,847.94	-	-
945	Gen. Ins. Misc.		334,018.00	20,000.00	354,018.00	354,018.00	-	-
<b>Total Fund 01 Budget</b>		1,993,585.53	31,816,477.00	212,794.68	34,022,857.21	31,839,110.30	2,183,746.91	2,021,321.45
Snow and Ice to 2011								196,837.69
Net GF								359,263.15
443	WWTP	Salaries	151.69	495,595.00	68,225.20	563,971.89	544,989.61	18,982.28
		Expenses	114.75	838,700.00		838,814.75	790,717.47	48,097.28
		Sewer Maint		219,396.00	(39,396.00)	180,000.00	169,876.19	10,123.81
		Capital	66,260.00	165,000.00		231,260.00	49,012.50	182,247.50
		From Surplus			25,000.00	25,000.00	12,625.00	12,375.00
<b>Total Fund 244 Budget</b>		66,526.44	1,718,691.00	53,829.20	1,839,046.64	1,567,220.77	271,825.87	-
Exp. Balance to sewer surplus*								(271,825.87)
<b>Total Budget</b>		2,060,111.97	33,535,168.00	266,623.88	35,861,903.85	33,406,331.07	2,455,572.78	2,021,321.45

\*WWTP = total sewer revenue less total sewer expense less GF transfers closes to sewer surplus fund balance

Revenue Source	Budget	Actual	Variance
<b>Tax Revenue</b>			
Real Estate		13,707,871.65	
Tax Title		275,874.95	
Personal Property		641,822.88	
	14,728,793.00	14,625,569.48	(103,223.52)
<b>State Receipts</b>			-
Ch 70	11,001,315.00	11,001,315.00	
Charter tuition	20,883.00	21,994.00	
School construction	2,025,950.00	2,025,952.00	
Unrestricted state aid	1,766,962.00	1,766,962.00	
Police career	10,193.00	10,177.00	
Veteran Benefits	26,400.00	44,436.00	
Exemptions	67,289.00	63,447.00	
State owned land	56,365.00	56,365.00	
	14,975,357.00	14,990,648.00	15,291.00
<b>Local Receipts (see detail)</b>	4,240,721.00	4,662,237.30	421,516.30
<b>Plus</b>			
Free cash	159,000.00	159,000.00	
Stabilization	13,628.00	13,628.00	
<b>Total Budget</b>	34,117,499.00	34,451,082.78	333,583.78

**WWTP Revenue Detail  
(included in local  
receipts above)**

User Fees	2,086,620.00	2,402,416.27	
Interest on Sewer Charges		18,965.19	
Departmental Revenue	350,000.00	245,280.88	
Bank Interest		2,152.63	
Total Sewer Revenue	2,436,620.00	2,668,814.97	232,194.97 *

WWTP = Sewer revenues less sewer expenditures less GF transfers closes to Sewer Surplus Fund Balance

**Cash**

6/30/10 General Ledger Cash	\$ 7,500,769.02
6/30/10 Treasurer's Cashbook	\$ 7,500,769.02
Variance	\$ -

Account Description	Account Number	FY'2008 Budget	FY'2008 Actual	FY'2009 Budget	FY 2009 Actual	FY 2010 Budget	Revised 2010 budget
Motor Vehicle Excise	01-41500	1,240,000	1,331,978.18	1,276,500.00	<b>1,269,355.40</b>	<b>1,225,000.00</b>	<b>1,269,300.00</b>
Other Excise	01-41600	1,070	1,261.25	1,200.00	<b>823.00</b>	<b>823.00</b>	<b>78,470.00</b> *
Interest-RE/PP Taxes	01-41700	67,800	72,179.89	71,800.00	122,560.44	72,000.00	35,000.00
Interest- MV Excise	01-41701	19,500	22,718.82	22,500.00	22,350.82	18,000.00	22,300.00
Interest- Sewer Chgs.	244-41704	5,300	8,437.50	8,000.00		-	-
Interest- Tax Titles	01-41705	29,112	9,919.20	10,500.00	27,948.01	26,400.00	26,000.00
Tax title legal fees	01-43851	850			248.64	500.00	500.00
		122,562	113,255.41	112,800.00	<b>173,107.91</b>	<b>116,900.00</b>	<b>83,800.00</b>
In Lieu of Taxes	01-41800	17,600	10,920.00	10,920.00	<b>11,167.50</b>	<b>10,920.00</b>	<b>10,920.00</b>
Sewer Dept. Revenue	01-43705	2,192,766	2,204,144.84	2,278,416.00	<b>2,294,000.31</b>	<b>2,436,620.00</b>	<b>2,436,620.00</b>
MV Surcharge Fees	01-43200				1,723.40	1,500.00	1,700.00
Mark Fees	01-43300				27,960.00	22,400.00	27,900.00
Town Clerk Fees	01-43700	29,000	27,114.75	29,000.00	24,287.00	20,000.00	24,000.00
Municipal Lien Certs.	01-43714				8,325.00	6,000.00	7,000.00
Fire Dept. Bill Processing	01-43730	11,000	11,943.00	6,379.00	6,829.00	17,513.00	17,513.00
Police Fees	01-43660		15.9	20	449.50	200.00	600.00
Collector Demand Fees	01-43850				60,257.83	45,000.00	50,000.00
		40,000	39,073.65	<b>35,399.00</b>	<b>129,831.73</b>	<b>112,613.00</b>	<b>128,713.00</b>
School (e-rate reimb)	01-48400	4,957	5,103.29	-		-	-
Cemetery Dept. Revenue	01-43708	15,300	15,635.50	15,500.00	<b>14,393.00</b>	<b>15,000.00</b>	<b>14,390.00</b>
Town Manager	01-43702	29,800	17,912.45	17,571.00	20,758.72	17,500.00	20,000.00

Planning	01-43703	12,500	6,719.24	6,700.00	7,355.00	7,000.00	7,000.00
Police	01-43704	4,000	4,282.00	4,200.00	4,492.50	4,200.00	4,400.00
Sealer	01-43706	2,800	3,101.10	3,100.00	3,401.50	5,000.00	3,400.00
Board of Appeals	01-43707	750 -	-	-	-	-	-
Dog Officer	01-43709	450	675	550	630.00	500.00	550.00
Police Officer Reg. School	01-43715		19,147.50	19,150.00	19,154.96	20,495.00	20,495.00 *
Outside Detail Admin.	01-43711	5,000	8,139.40	8,100.00	5,811.92	5,000.00	5,800.00
Tax Collector	01-43716	62,000	69,446.05	67,950.00	6,742.46	5,000.00	6,500.00
Treasurer Misc.	01-43717				485.44	100.00	100.00
License Commission	01-44100	26,000	23,740.00	23,740.00	21,985.00	23,000.00	21,500.00
All Other	01-43760	1,300	2,051.03	2,000.00	514.70	600.00	492.00
		144,600	155,213.77	153,061.00	91,332.20	88,395.00	90,237.00
Police Firearms	01-44506	0	6,905.00	7,059.00	3,317.50	5,000.00	3,300.00
Dog Licenses	01-43701	6,855	5,670.00	5,670.00	13,250.00	9,500.00	13,000.00
Gas Inspector	01-44500	400	948	950	791.40	800.00	750.00
Wire Inspector	01-44501	3,800	5,342.80	5,300.00	6,462.40	5,200.00	6,200.00
Building Inspector	01-44502	67,600	38,806.70	38,100.00	38,386.35	35,000.00	38,000.00
Plumbing Inspector	01-44503	1,498	1,401.80	1,400.00	1,329.60	950.00	1,300.00
Board of Health	01-44504	18,100	16,934.65	16,900.00	15,540.72	18,000.00	15,500.00
All Other (Milk)	01-44505	100	135	135			
		98,353	76,143.95	75,514.00	79,077.97	74,450.00	78,050.00
Fines & Forfeits	01-46802,47700,1	51,500	47,094.45	46,000.00	31,994.50	29,000.00	31,500.00
Investment Income	01-48200	42,700	43,020.56	40,000.00	33,749.81	27,000.00	28,000.00
Misc- Recurring	01-48400					85,000.00	85,000.00
	01-48500					19,000.00	19,000.00
Misc- Non/Recurring	01-48000	63,560	170,159.56	2,100.00	50,185.75	-	6,800.00 *
Totals		4,034,968	4,213,004.41	4,047,410.00	4,179,019.08	4,240,721.00	4,360,800.00

# Palmer Local Receipts

Account Description	Account Number	FY 2010 Budget	Final Recap 2010 budget
Motor Vehicle Excise	01-41500	<b>1,225,000.00</b>	<b>1,269,300.00</b>
Other Excise	01-41600	<b>823.00</b>	970.00
Meals Tax Excise			77,500.00
			<b>78,470.00</b>
Interest-RE/PP Taxes	01-41700	72,000.00	35,000.00
Interest- MV Excise	01-41701	18,000.00	22,300.00
Interest- Sewer Chgs.	244-41704	-	-
Interest- Tax Titles	01-41705	26,400.00	26,000.00
Tax title legal fees	01-43851	500.00	500.00
		<b>116,900.00</b>	<b>83,800.00</b>
In Lieu of Taxes	01-41800	<b>10,920.00</b>	<b>10,920.00</b>
Sewer Dept. Revenue	01-43705	<b>2,436,620.00</b>	<b>2,436,620.00</b>
MV Surcharge Fees	01-43200	1,500.00	1,700.00
Mark Fees	01-43300	22,400.00	27,900.00
Town Clerk Fees	01-43700	20,000.00	24,000.00
Municipal Lien Certs.	01-43714	6,000.00	7,000.00
Fire Dept. Bill Processing	01-43730	17,513.00	17,513.00
Police Fees	01-43660	200.00	600.00
Collector Demand Fees	01-43850	45,000.00	50,000.00
		<b>112,613.00</b>	<b>128,713.00</b>
School (e-rate reimb)	01-48400	-	-
Cemetery Dept. Revenue	01-43708	<b>15,000.00</b>	<b>14,390.00</b>
Town Manager	01-43702	17,500.00	20,000.00
Planning	01-43703	7,000.00	7,000.00
Police	01-43704	4,200.00	4,400.00
Sealer	01-43706	5,000.00	3,400.00
Board of Appeals	01-43707	-	-
Dog Officer	01-43709	500.00	550.00
Police Officer Reg. School	01-43715	20,495.00	20,495.00
Outside Detail Admin.	01-43711	5,000.00	5,800.00
Tax Collector	01-43716	5,000.00	6,500.00
Treasurer Misc.	01-43717	100.00	100.00
License Commission	01-44100	23,000.00	21,500.00
All Other	01-43760	600.00	492.00
		<b>88,395.00</b>	<b>90,237.00</b>
Police Firearms	01-44506	5,000.00	3,300.00
Dog Licenses	01-43701	9,500.00	13,000.00
Gas Inspector	01-44500	800.00	750.00

Wire Inspector	01-44501	5,200.00	6,200.00
Building Inspector	01-44502	35,000.00	38,000.00
Plumbing Inspector	01-44503	950.00	1,300.00
Board of Health	01-44504	18,000.00	15,500.00
All Other (Milk)	01-44505		
		<b>74,450.00</b>	<b>78,050.00</b>
Fines & Forfeits	01-46802,47700,1	<b>29,000.00</b>	<b>31,500.00</b>
Investment Income	01-48200	<b>27,000.00</b>	<b>28,000.00</b>
Misc- Recurring	01-48400	<b>85,000.00</b>	<b>85,000.00</b>
	01-48500	<b>19,000.00</b>	<b>19,000.00</b>
Misc- Non/Recurring	01-48000	-	<b>6,800.00</b>
Totals		<b>4,240,721.00</b>	<b>4,360,800.00</b>

#### Palmer Local Receipts

Account Description	Account Number	FY 2010 Budget	Final Recap 2010 budget	Actual 6/30/2010	% collected
Motor Vehicle Excise	01-41500	<b>1,225,000.00</b>	<b>1,269,300.00</b>	<b>1,210,050.57</b>	95.33%
Other Excise	01-41600	<b>823.00</b>	970.00	974.13	100.43%
Meals Tax Excise	01-41602		77,500.00	63,890.16	82.44%
			<b>78,470.00</b>	<b>64,864.29</b>	82.66%
Interest-RE/PP Taxes	01-41700	72,000.00	35,000.00	56,513.05	161.47%
Interest- MV Excise	01-41701	18,000.00	22,300.00	19,280.51	86.46%
Interest- Sewer Chgs.	244-41704	-	-		
Interest- Tax Titles	01-41705	26,400.00	26,000.00	41,165.89	158.33%
Tax title legal fees	01-43851	500.00	500.00	18,756.79	3751.36%
		<b>116,900.00</b>	<b>83,800.00</b>	<b>135,716.24</b>	161.95%
In Lieu of Taxes	01-41800	<b>10,920.00</b>	<b>10,920.00</b>	<b>10,920.00</b>	100.00%
Sewer Dept. Revenue	01-43705	<b>2,436,620.00</b>	<b>2,436,620.00</b>	<b>2,668,814.97</b>	109.53%
MV Surcharge Fees	01-43200	1,500.00	1,700.00	1,440.00	84.71%
Mark Fees	01-43300	22,400.00	27,900.00	28,120.00	100.79%
Town Clerk Fees	01-43700	20,000.00	24,000.00	27,527.00	114.70%
Municipal Lien Certs.	01-43714	6,000.00	7,000.00	9,825.00	140.36%
Fire Dept. Bill Processing	01-43730	17,513.00	17,513.00	17,517.69	100.03%
Police Fees	01-43660	200.00	600.00	1,352.85	225.48%
Collector Demand Fees	01-43850	45,000.00	50,000.00	71,323.35	142.65%
		<b>112,613.00</b>	<b>128,713.00</b>	<b>157,105.89</b>	122.06%
School	01-43710	-	-	<b>21.40</b>	
Cemetery Dept. Revenue	01-43708	<b>15,000.00</b>	<b>14,390.00</b>	<b>11,454.00</b>	79.60%
Town Manager	01-43702	17,500.00	20,000.00	16,944.38	84.72%

Planning	01-43703	7,000.00	7,000.00	10,678.40	152.55%
Police	01-43704	4,200.00	4,400.00	4,821.00	109.57%
Sealer	01-43706	5,000.00	3,400.00	5,913.96	173.94%
Board of Appeals	01-43707	-	-		
Dog Officer	01-43709	500.00	550.00	1,600.00	290.91%
Police Officer Reg. School	01-43715	20,495.00	20,495.00	19,244.24	93.90%
Outside Detail Admin.	01-43711	5,000.00	5,800.00	5,761.22	99.33%
Tax Collector	01-43716	5,000.00	6,500.00	2,114.01	32.52%
Treasurer Misc.	01-43717	100.00	100.00	915.67	915.67%
License Commission	01-44100	23,000.00	21,500.00	24,620.00	114.51%
All Other	01-43760	600.00	492.00	563.55	114.54%
		<b>88,395.00</b>	<b>90,237.00</b>	<b>93,176.43</b>	103.26%
Police Firearms	01-44506	5,000.00	3,300.00	2,237.50	67.80%
Dog Licenses	01-43701	9,500.00	13,000.00	12,565.00	96.65%
Gas Inspector	01-44500	800.00	750.00	970.00	129.33%
Wire Inspector	01-44501	5,200.00	6,200.00	5,789.92	93.39%
Building Inspector	01-44502	35,000.00	38,000.00	51,606.03	135.81%
Plumbing Inspector	01-44503	950.00	1,300.00	1,367.40	105.18%
Board of Health	01-44504	18,000.00	15,500.00	18,447.49	119.02%
		<b>74,450.00</b>	<b>78,050.00</b>	<b>92,983.34</b>	119.13%
Fines & Forfeits	01-46802,47700,1	<b>29,000.00</b>	<b>31,500.00</b>	<b>42,270.51</b>	134.19%
Investment Income	01-48200	<b>27,000.00</b>	<b>28,000.00</b>	<b>28,302.07</b>	101.08%
Misc- Recurring	01-48400	<b>85,000.00</b>	<b>85,000.00</b>	<b>92,941.71</b>	109.34%
	01-48500	<b>19,000.00</b>	<b>19,000.00</b>	<b>27,734.89</b>	145.97%
Misc- Non/Recurring	01-48000, 41200, 41210, 46801	-	<b>6,800.00</b>	<b>25,880.99</b>	380.60%
Totals		<b>4,240,721.00</b>	<b>4,360,800.00</b>	<b>4,662,237.30</b>	<b>106.91%</b>

#### Miscellaneous Local Receipt Detail FY 2010

#### Town of Palmer

Misc- Recurring	01-48400	<b>85,000.00</b>	<b>85,000.00</b>	Municipal Medicaid Reimbursement ( In FY 2009 school had a revolving account - closed revolving acct in FY 2010)
Misc- Non/Recurring	01-48000	-	6,600.00	\$6,600 Conservation fines (already received)
	01-41200		200.00	Supplemental RE (already received)
	01-48500	<b>19,000.00</b>	<b>19,000.00</b>	Block Grant reimbursement for employee benefit expense
Total Misc Non-recurr.			<b>25,800.00</b>	

#### Other Excise Detail

Meals Excise		77,500.00	
Farm Animal Excise	01-41700	970.00	(already received)
		<b>78,470.00</b>	

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Bernier, Town Accountant

## **ASSESSORS**

### **LOCAL EXPENDITURES**

Appropriations	\$34,062,520.48
Offsets	32,315.00
Deferral of Teacher's Pay	76,402.00
Snow & Ice Deficits	136,326.04
Health Insurance Deficit	30,203.34
State & County Charges	232,496.00
Overlay	169,386.85

<b>TOTAL AMOUNT TO BE RAISED</b>	<b>\$34,739,649.71</b>
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### **ESTIMATED RECEIPTS AND OTHER REVENUE SOURCES**

Cherry Sheet Estimated Receipts	\$12,983,315.00
Massachusetts School Building Authority Payments	2,025,952.00
Local Estimated Receipts	4,360,800.00
Other Available Funds	533,465.48
Free Cash	166,515.00
Free Cash to reduce the tax rate	0.00
Teacher's Pay Deferral	38,200.00
<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED RECEIPTS</b>	<b>\$20,108,247.48</b>

<b>NET AMOUNT TO BE RAISED</b>	<b>\$14,631,402.23</b>
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**NET AMOUNT TO BE RAISED / TOTAL VALUATION = TAX RATE FY2010**

**\$14,631,402.23                      /                      974,776,965                      =                      \$15.01**

### **CLASSIFIED PERCENTAGES**

<b>LEVY PERCENTAGE</b>		<b>LEVY BY CLASS</b>
RESIDENTIAL	83.3134	\$12,189,913.09
OPEN SPACE	0	0
COMMERCIAL	7.3380	1,073,649.46
INDUSTRIAL	4.9682	726,925.29
PERSONAL PROPERT	4.3804	640,914.39
	100.00%	
	53	\$14,631,402.23



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## VALUATION BY CLASS

RESIDENTIAL	812,119,460
OPEN SPACE	0
COMMERCIAL	71,528,945
INDUSTRIAL	48,429,400
PERSONAL PROPERTY	42,699,160
<b>TOTAL VALUATION</b>	<b>974,776,965</b>

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RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Beverly A. Morin-Lizak  
Michael J. Burns  
Lawrence M. Jasak

## **TAX COLLECTOR / TREASURER**

### **Schedule of Outstanding Receivables as of June 30<sup>th</sup> 2010**

#### **Real Estate Taxes**

<b>Levy of 2010</b>	248,734
<b>Levy of 2009</b>	9,263
<b>Levy of 2008</b>	0
Levy of 2007	53
Prior Years	42146
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$300, 195</b>

#### **Personal Property Taxes**

Levy of 2010	2,823
Levy of 2009	2,764
Levy of 2008	910
Levy of 2007	1,615
Prior Years	57012
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$65,124</b>

#### **Deferred Property Taxes**

**\$47,450**

#### **Motor Vehicle Excise**

Levy of 2010	92,773
Levy of 2009	35,359

Levy of 2008	27,538
Levy of 2007	21,102
Prior Years	98,579
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 275,352</b>
<b>Tax Liens/Tax Title</b>	<b>\$ 1,747,748</b>
<b>Tax Foreclosures/Tax Possessions</b>	<b>\$ 35,498</b>
<b>Other Excise Taxes</b>	
Farm animal excise	120
Classified forest land	405
<b>User Charges Receivable</b>	
<b>Sewer</b>	<b>\$ 700,289</b>
<b>Utility Liens Added to Taxes</b>	<b>\$ 21,710</b>
<b>Special Assessments Receivable</b>	
Committed interest added to taxes	\$
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$ 3,193,891</b>

Respectfully submitted by  
Melissa Zawadzki  
**Treasurer**

Bank Balances

**June 30<sup>th</sup> 2010**

<u>BANK</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>
Bank of Western Mass	\$ 1,279,528.15
Bartholomew	\$ 490,404.01
Century Bank	\$ 71,026.35
County Bank	\$ 632,733.01
Eastern Bank	\$ 6,904.20
M.M.D.T	\$ 573.16
North Brookfield Savings	\$ 290,217.34
Peoples Bank	\$ 770,445.70
TDBankNorth	\$ 209,624.74
Unibank	\$ 553,936.61
United Bank	\$ 3,195,375.75

TOTAL \$ 7,500,769.02

Respectfully submitted by  
Melissa Zawadzki

## **Parking Clerk**

\$5,130.00 Total Paid in Fines on 188 Tickets

Respectfully submitted by  
Melissa Zawadzki

## **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

### **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

From July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010, the Palmer Police Department answered approximately 15,936 calls for service. From these calls, 1,575 criminal offenses were recorded and investigated. Additionally, 785 individuals were arrested and/or summoned to court. More than 1,464 traffic citations were issued and 336 traffic accidents, involving 538 operators, were investigated. These accidents resulted in injuries to 149 individuals, including two fatalities. A complete statistical report of the year's activity follows this report.

The department is currently comprised of 20 full-time and 1 part-time police officers, and 6 full-time and 1 part-time civilian staff members. Sergeant Kevin E. Kopacz retired from the department on January 31, 2010 after serving for more than 36 years. His presence will be missed and we thank him for his many years of dedicated and competent service to our community.

To temporarily fill the supervisory void created by the retirement of Sergeant Kopacz, Officer Erin F. Sullivan was appointed as an acting sergeant. Acting Sergeant Sullivan will serve in this capacity until a permanent sergeant is appointed through the state's Civil Service promotional process.

In June of 2010, Christopher P. Welsh was appointed to the position of full-time police officer. Officer Welsh comes to us with five years of police experience, having served in the town of Brookfield as an officer, a sergeant and, most recently, as the acting chief of police. He will begin his employment on July 1, 2010.

The department received the following grants during this reporting period:

Traffic Enforcement Grant (Governor's Highway Safety Bureau) - \$7,000 to be used for speed, seat belt, drunk driving and red light enforcement as part of the state's "Click It or Ticket" and "You Drink – You Drive – You Lose" campaigns. Due to tight fiscal constraints, \$3,000, which was to be used to purchase radar units and tint meters, was eliminated from the grant.

9-1-1 Training Grant (State 911 Department) - \$5,000 total award. Through this program, governmental entities hosting primary Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) are eligible to receive reimbursement for training-related costs associated with the 9-1-1 system. Eligible awards are based on a rounded formula of 9-1-1 calls received and population served, with a minimum award of \$5,000.

PSAP Support and Incentive Grant (State 911 Department) - \$35,000 total award. The purpose of the State 911 Department Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) and Regional Emergency Communication Center (RECC) Support and Incentive Grants is to assist PSAPs and regional emergency centers in providing enhanced 911 service and to encourage the development of regional PSAPs, regional secondary PSAPs and regional emergency communication centers.

We were very disappointed that the state eliminated Community Policing grants this year due to fiscal issues. These annual awards were very beneficial to our community. Averaging \$28,000 per year, we used the

funds for special programs like Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) classes, Citizen Police Academies, and information table at community events. We also used the funds for bicycle patrols, directed police patrols, targeted enforcement initiatives, and for traffic and safety coverage at community parades and events. With the elimination of these grant funds, the aforementioned programs have all been discontinued. Furthermore, when traffic and safety coverage is required at parades and other events, the event sponsors will be required to fund the cost of the police officers.

Once again, statistically we remain one of the busiest municipal police agencies in our area. We provide a high level of service with a substandard police facility and far fewer resources than many police departments of similar size. In spite of this, our staff remains true to their mission to provide professional services to the town. In the future, so as to continue to offer the level of service our residents demand, we must look at innovative things like regionalization and expanding our funding sources. These have been and will continue to be our goals for the immediate future.

In closing, I would also like to thank President Paul Burns and the members of the Town Council, Town Manager Matthew Streeter, Interim Town Manager Patricia Kennedy, the town's fire departments and fire chiefs, DPW Director Richard Kaczmarczyk and his staff, and all the other town offices and departments for their support and cooperation throughout the year.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert P. Frydryk  
Chief of Police

## OFFENSES (IBR) BY MONTH

OFFENSE (IBR)	FY 2010												TOTALS
	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	
ARSON		1							3				4
ASSAULT - AGGRAVATED	2	10	2	7	5		3	3	6	4	1	4	47
ASSAULT - SIMPLE	18	7	7	9	7	13	14	8	30	9	15	11	148
BAD CHECKS										3			3
BURGLARY / BREAKING AND ENTERING	14	17	5	3	2	9	2	2	1	5	4	10	74
COUNTERFEITING / FORGERY				2						1		1	4
CREDIT CARD / AUTOMATIC TELLER CRIME						1		2			1	1	5
DESTRUCTION / DAMAGE / VANDALISM	7	18	8	4	6	13	4	8	3	4	4	11	90
DISORDERLY CONDUCT	9	8	16	8	9	7	4	9	9	13	7	7	106
DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE	2	4	6	2	4	3	8	2	5	3	6	6	51
DRUG / NARCOTIC VIOLATIONS	3	3		4	3	5	5	10	4	12	7		56
DRUNKENNESS	14	21	8	14	3	7	5	8	17	8	14	13	132
FALSE PRETENSES / SWINDLE	1	1	1	2	1	1			2	2		2	13
FAMILY OFFENSES, NONVIOLENT		1	2										3
FORCIBLE FONDLING	1	2					1				2	3	9
FORCIBLE RAPE	1	2							1			1	5
IMPERSONATION	1	1		2	4			1	4	1			14
INTIMIDATION	4	6	6	4	2	6	5	5	4	6		1	49
KIDNAPPING / ABDUCTION							1		1				2
LIQUOR LAW VIOLATIONS	4	7					3	2	4	2	4	1	27
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	1	1		1	1	1		1	2	1	1	2	12
PORNOGRAPHY / OBSCENE MATERIAL				1								1	2
ROBBERY		1		1				3					5
RUNAWAY											1	2	3
SHOPLIFTING	2		5	4	2	5	6		2			1	27
STATUTORY RAPE									1				1
STOLEN PROPERTY OFFENSES	2			1				1	1		1		6
THEFT FROM BUILDING		1		1	1	1	1	1	2	2			10
THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE	2	2	1			3	1	3		1		1	14
THEFT OF MOTOR VEHICLE PARTS/ACCESSORIES					1		1		2				4
TRAFFIC, TOWN BY-LAW OFFENSES	25	39	23	27	33	27	34	31	21	30	42	41	373
TRESPASS OF REAL PROPERTY	1	4	2	3	2	1		2	5	6	2	4	32
WEAPON LAW VIOLATIONS			1		1			1		1			4
ALL OTHER LARCENY	6	8	8	8	3	5	5	1	2	6	5	7	64
ALL OTHER OFFENSES	9	15	10	12	16	17	26	17	15	20	5	14	176
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>1,575</b>

**PALMER POLICE DEPARTMENT  
ANNUAL REPORT – FY2010**

**PRIMARY ARRESTING OFFENSE BY MONTH**

ARRESTING OFFENSE (IBR)	FY 2010												TOTALS
	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	
ASSAULT - AGGRAVATED	1	6	1	1	2		1		3	1		2	18
ASSAULT - SIMPLE	10	4	8	6	5	9	9	5	15	5	4	8	88
BAD CHECKS										1			1
BURGLARY / BREAKING AND ENTERING	8												8
COUNTERFEITING / FORGERY												1	1
DESTRUCTION / DAMAGE / VANDALISM	2	1	2		1				1	1			8
DISORDERLY CONDUCT	3	8	7	5	4	3	3	4	4	6	3	1	51
DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE	2	4	5	1	3	3	6	2	4	2	5	5	42
DRUG / NARCOTIC VIOLATIONS	1	2				1	2	6		5	5		22
DRUNKENNESS	14	21	8	14	3	7	6	8	17	8	15	13	134
FALSE PRETENSES / SWINDLE				2									2
FAMILY OFFENSES, NONVIOLENT		1	2										3
FORCIBLE FONDLING	1												1
FORCIBLE RAPE		1						1	1				3
FORCIBLE SODOMY	1												1
INTIMIDATION	2			1		1	1			4			9
LIQUOR LAW VIOLATIONS	14	11	15					2	5	1	3		51
ROBBERY		1						3					4
RUNAWAY											1	2	3
SHOPLIFTING	2		4	4	3	5	3	2	1			2	26
STATUTORY RAPE									1				1
STOLEN PROPERTY OFFENSES				2									2
THEFT FROM BUILDING		1						2					3
THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE												1	1
THEFT OF MOTOR VEHICLE PARTS/ACCESSORIES					1								1
TRAFFIC, TOWN BY-LAW OFFENSES	6	12	13	15	16	9	13	10	8	14	16	18	150
TRESPASS OF REAL PROPERTY		5	1					1	1	7	7	4	26
WEAPON LAW VIOLATIONS			1		1			1					3
ALL OTHER LARCENY			1	2	3	2	2						10
ALL OTHER OFFENSES	6	12	6	11	8	14	7	13	9	14	4	6	110
<b>MONTHLY TOTALS</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>783</b>

**PALMER POLICE DEPARTMENT  
ANNUAL REPORT – FY2010**

**OFFENSES (IN ARRESTS) BY AGE GROUP**

	FY2010						
	OFFENDER AGE RANGE						
OFFENSE	00-10	11-17	18-24	25-34	35-54	> 55	TOTALS
ASSAULT - AGGRAVATED	1	1	5	5	5	1	18
ASSAULT - SIMPLE		9	30	16	31	2	88
BAD CHECKS				1			1
BURGLARY / BREAKING AND ENTERING		4	4				8
COUNTERFEITING / FORGERY			1				1
DESTRUCTION / DAMAGE / VANDALISM		1	4	1	2		8
DISORDERLY CONDUCT		12	9	14	9	7	51
DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE			8	13	19	2	42
DRUG / NARCOTIC VIOLATIONS			10	8	4		22
DRUNKENNESS		8	25	26	63	12	134
FALSE PRETENSES / SWINDLE			1	1			2
FAMILY OFFENSES, NONVIOLENT					3		3
FORCIBLE FONDLING			1				1
FORCIBLE RAPE		3					3
FORCIBLE SODOMY		1					1
INTIMIDATION		2		1	4	2	9
LIQUOR LAW VIOLATIONS		24	24	2	1		51
ROBBERY		1	2	1			4
RUNAWAY		3					3
SHOPLIFTING		4	5	6	9		24
STATUTORY RAPE			1				1
STOLEN PROPERTY OFFENSES		2	2	1			5
THEFT FROM BUILDING			1	1	1		3
THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE		1					1
THEFT OF MOTOR VEHICLE PARTS/ACCESSORIES					1		1
TRAFFIC, TOWN BY-LAW OFFENSES		8	48	40	43	11	150
TRESPASS OF REAL PROPERTY		4	10	2	7	3	26
WEAPON LAW VIOLATIONS		2			1		3
ALL OTHER LARCENY		1	4	2	2		10
ALL OTHER OFFENSES		13	34	23	34	6	110
TOTALS	1	104	229	164	239	46	783

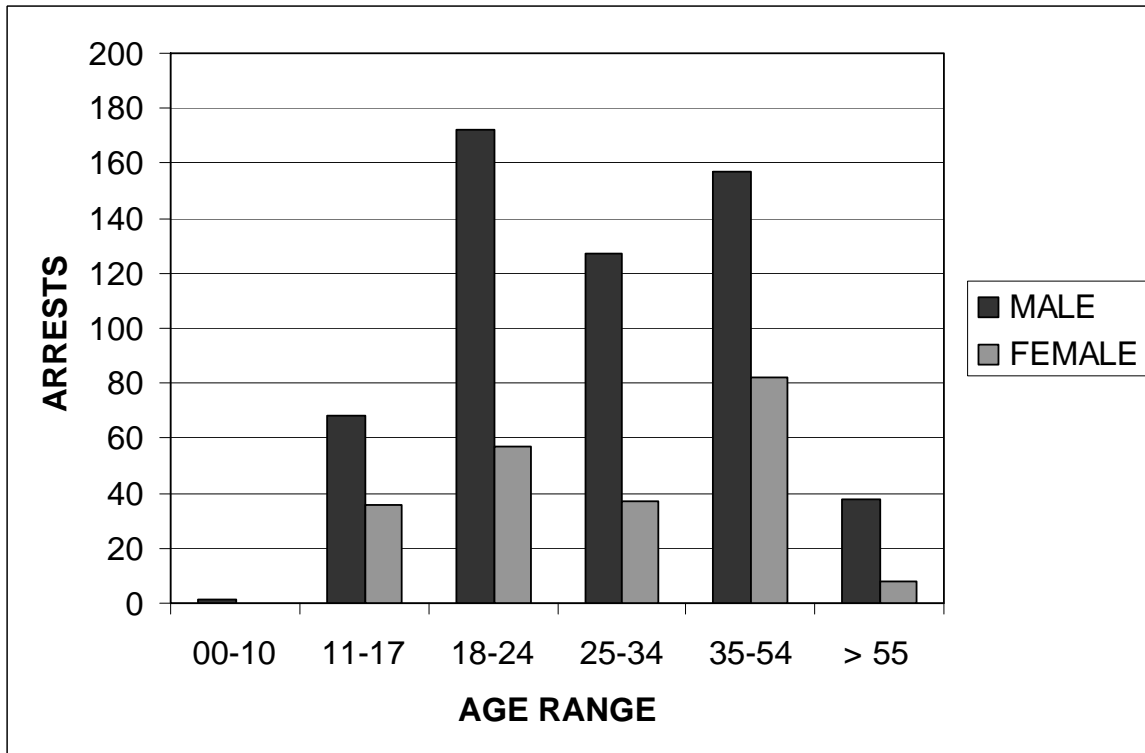
**WEAPONS INVOLVED IN OFFENSES**

Weapon Type	Occurrence(s)	Percentage
None	1362	86.31%
Personal Weapons (Hands/Feet/Etc)	148	9.38%
Knife/Cutting Instrument	23	1.46%
Other	13	0.82%
Blunt Object	11	0.70%
Handgun	5	0.32%
Motor Vehicle	5	0.32%
Rifle	4	0.25%
Unknown	3	0.19%
Other Firearm	2	0.13%
Firearm (Unspecified)	1	0.06%
Explosives	1	0.06%
<b>Total Occurrences</b>	<b>1,578</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

### ARRESTEE RACE AND SEX BY AGE

	FY2010								
	AGE GROUP								
RACE/SEX	00-10	11-17	18-24	25-34	35-54	> 55	TOTALS	Hispanic	
Asian/Pacific Islander									
Female	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	
Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Black									
Female	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	
Male	0	2	5	12	5	3	27	4	
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
American Indian/Alaskan Native									
Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Unknown									
Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
White									
Female	0	36	57	34	82	8	217	4	
Male	1	66	167	115	152	35	535	24	
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
TOTALS	1	104	229	164	239	46	783	32	

### ARRESTEE BY AGE AND SEX (GRAPH) – FY 2010

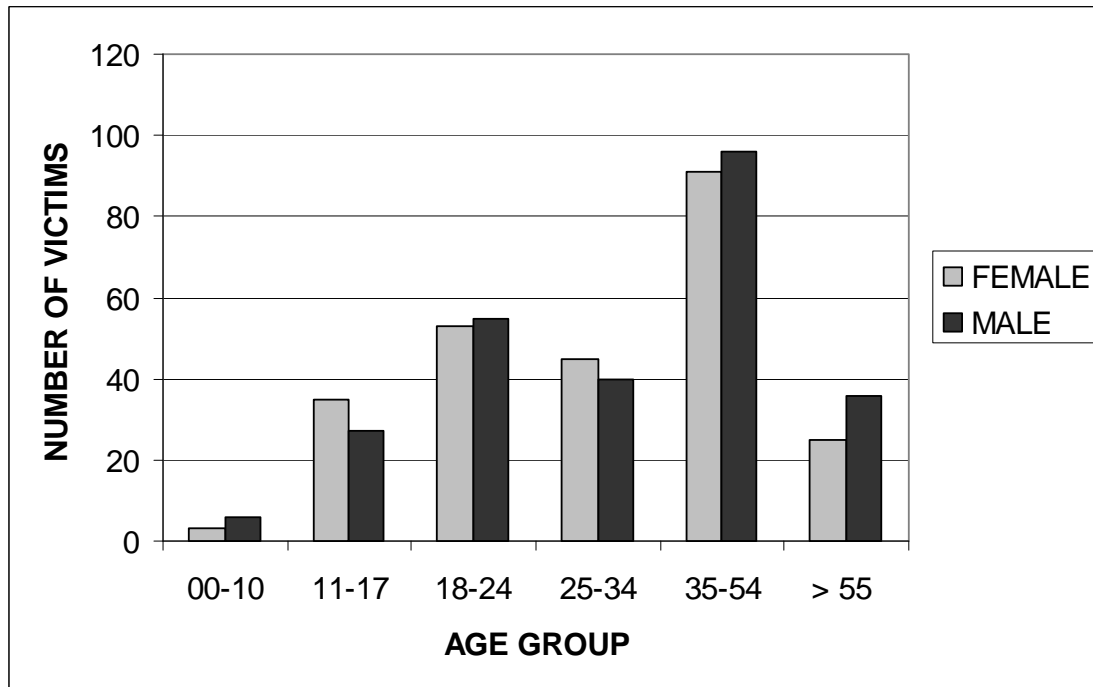




### VICTIMS BY AGE / SEX / RACE

	FY2010								
	AGE GROUP								
RACE/SEX	00-10	11-17	18-24	25-34	35-54	> 55	TOTALS	Hispanic	
Asian/Pacific Islander									
Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Male	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	0	
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Black									
Female	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	
Male	0	1	0	0	1	2	4	0	
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
American Indian/Alaskan Native									
Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Unknown									
Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
White									
Female	3	35	53	45	90	25	251	5	
Male	6	25	55	40	94	34	254	9	
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
TOTALS	9	62	108	85	187	61	512	14	

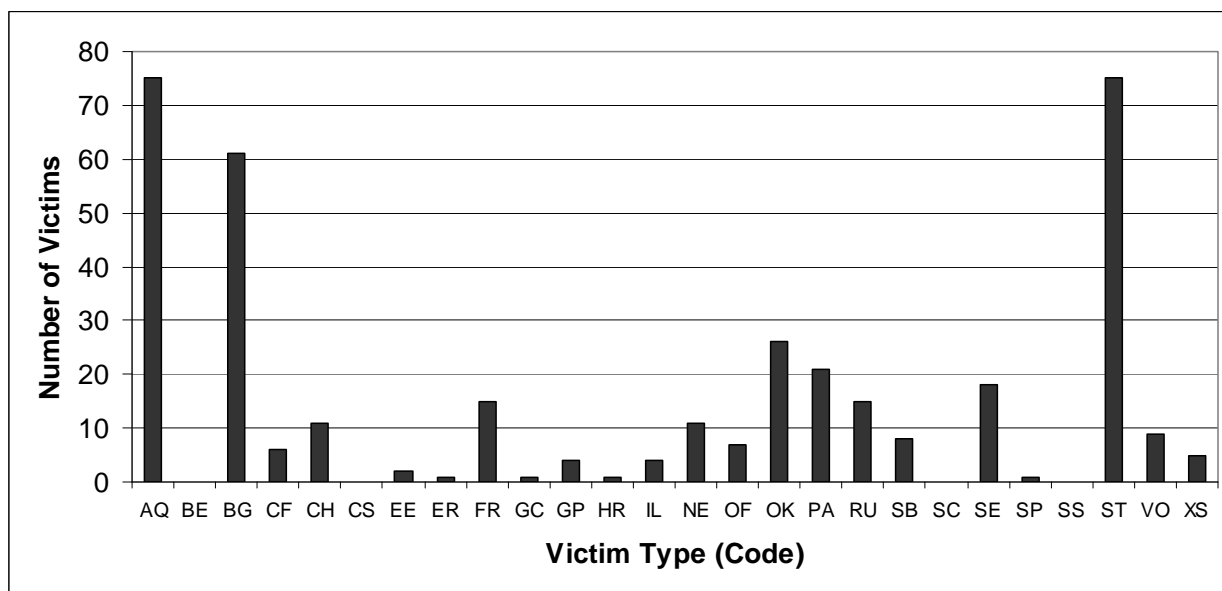
**VICTIMS BY AGE GROUP AND SEX (GRAPH) – FY 2010**



### RELATIONSHIP OF VICTIMS TO OFFENDERS

CODE	RELATIONSHIP	TOTALS	CODE	RELATIONSHIP	TOTALS
AQ	Acquaintance	75	NE	Neighbor	11
BE	Babysittee	0	OF	Other Family Member	7
BG	Boy/Girl Friend	61	OK	Otherwise Known	26
CF	Child of Boy/Girl Friend	6	PA	Parent	21
CH	Child	11	RU	Relationship Unknown	15
CS	Common-Law Spouse	0	SB	Sibling	8
EE	Employee	2	SC	Stepchild	0
ER	Employer	1	SE	Spouse	18
FR	Friend	15	SP	Stepparent	1
GC	Grandchild	1	SS	Stepsibling	0
GP	Grandparent	4	ST	Stranger	75
HR	Homosexual Relationship	1	VO	Victim was Offender	9
IL	In-Law	4	XS	Ex-Spouse	5
			<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>377</b>

### RELATIONSHIP OF VICTIMS TO OFFENDERS (GRAPH)



### VICTIM INJURIES

Injury Type	Occurrence(s)	Percentage
None	86	48.86%
Apparent Minor Injury	76	43.18%
Possible Internal Injuries	4	2.27%
Severe Laceration	4	2.27%
Apparent Broken Bones	3	1.70%
Other Major Injury	3	1.70%
<b>Total Occurrences</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

## **ANIMAL INSPECTOR/DOG OFFICER**

- 457 Complaints were received and investigated
- 59 Lost dogs and cats were reported
- 5 Dogs were adopted by rescue leagues
- 3 Deer were buried

Fines Issued to dog owners who did not obey the Palmer Leash Law:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Offense \$25.00
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense \$35.00
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense \$50.00

In 2010 there were 23 fines issued at \$25.00 each

Total fines for 2010: \$575.00

### **NOTICE:**

2010 Dog Licenses are due April 1.

### **License Fees:**

- Male \$15.00
- Neutered Male \$10.00
- Female \$15.00
- Spayed Female \$10.00

Late fee as of April 15 -- \$10.00

Late fee as of July 15 -- \$15.00

All stray dogs are held for ten days and then become the property of the Town of Palmer. They are then put up for adoption for a fee of \$10.00.

Respectfully submitted,

Frederick J. Guzik, Dog Officer  
Wanda Guzik, Assistant Dog Officer

## **REPORT OF THE FOREST FIRE WARDEN**

I herewith submit my report as Forest Fire Warden for the Town of Palmer for the period 2009 to 2010.

There were 42 responses for this period

Incident Type:

Forest, woods or wildland fires: 0

Brush, or brush and grass mixture fires:	6
Grass Fires:	2
Unauthorized burning:	31
Authorized controlled burning:	0
Citizen's complaint:	3

I would like to thank our Firefighters and Officers for their response, neighboring fire departments for providing mutual aid, Town Manager Matthew Streeter, Town Council, Palmer Police Department, and the Central Emergency Dispatchers for their assistance and cooperation provided during the year.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan J. Roy  
Forest Fire Warden

### **LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE**

The Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) is a federally mandated committee that will help our community protect public health, safety, and the environment from chemical hazards. The LEPC will become the focal point for all activities involved with Title III, Superfund Amendment and Reauthorization Act. The following activities will become the primary responsibility of the LEPC; data collection and information management, development of an emergency response plan, data collection on accidental chemical release, dealing with public inquiries about the risks of a chemical release, and to increase public awareness about the presence of hazardous materials within the Town of Palmer.

I have attended meetings and seminars sponsored by the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency to ensure that we are current on emergency planning and hazardous materials response procedures. We continue to maintain and update the town's master plan for hazardous materials response and conduct drills for response agencies. Required administrative and emergency personnel have been tested and certified in the National Incident Management System. The LEPC has been attending meetings as participants of the newly created Quaboag Valley Regional Emergency Planning Committee. It is our goal to not only focus on hazardous materials, but to utilize an "all hazards" principle to better serve the region. Our objective is to become a more efficient system by sharing information, ideas, and resources within surrounding communities.

Chemical and biological weapons of mass destruction present new dangers to first responders and the public. Local emergency response agencies attend training and seminars to be prepared in the event of an emergency. The Palmer Fire Department maintains a federally funded Mass Decontamination Unit in partnership with the UMass Wing Memorial Hospital. All Firefighters, Fire Officers, and hospital personnel have completed training on this unit. We have received grant funds to operate and maintain inventory for the mass decon unit.

I would like to recognize the private and public agencies that are members of the Local Emergency Planning Committee:

Town Manager's Office, Town Council, Palmer Police Department, Palmer, Three Rivers, Bondsville Fire Departments, Board of Health, Department of Public Works, Office of Emergency Management, Conservation Committee, Palmer School Department, UMass/Wing Hospital, Palmer Waste Water Treatment, Palmer, Three Rivers, Bondsville, Thorndike Water Departments, Palmer Ambulance Service, Inc., and community representatives.

In closing, I thank all the agencies and representatives who have taken their own time to attend meetings held throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan J. Roy, Chairman  
Local Emergency Planning Committee

## **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

### **Highway – Parks – Cemetery - Wastewater**

The previous year has been a busy one for the department. The phase four CSO project was put out for bid and was awarded to L & D Services of Monson Mass. Work commenced this past spring and was scheduled to go all summer with final paving being done in the spring of 2011.

The Springfield Street reconstruction project also continued with the final paving being done on the intersection of Main and Bridge Streets and traffic lights being activated. The upper section of Springfield Street is scheduled for final paving and marking this fall and the lower section will be finished in the spring of 2011. This project was paid for with Transportation Improvement Funds from the federal government and was under the control and supervision of the Mass DOT as per federal regulations.

Another DOT project, this summer was the bridge replacement of the State Street Bridge in Bondsville. This project is expected to be completed by fall 2011. This project like Springfield Street is being paid for by bridge repair funds managed by the DOT.

The final 1300' ft of Stimson road was completed and several other streets were paved, reclaimed or treated using the town's allotment of chapter 90 Funds.

Brush cutting, patching, catch basin cleaning and other maintenance task were ongoing during the year as needed.

Last winter was mild compared to previous winters which reduced the snow, and ice deficit which is crucial in these difficult financial times.

Park and Cemetery personal continue to struggle under the burden of less manpower and maintenance funding. As of July 1<sup>st</sup> 2010 the staff assigned to the Park Division was reduced to two, which mean this was the same number of people employed by the parks in 1967 and the Cemetery was also reduced to one full time position putting them back to the staffing level of the sixties. Personal from other divisions are backfilling theses vacant positions during busy times leaving less personal to perform highway sewer, and other vital infrastructure work.

Capitol items were not addressed in last years budget resulting in more equipment being placed out of service and the need to purchase new equipment continually increasing.

In closing I would like to thank all other town departments and personal for all the assistance given to the DPW over the years.

Respectfully Submitted  
Richard Kaczmarczyk  
Acting DPW Director

## **WATER POLLUTION CONTROL FACILITY**

The past year has brought many new challenges to the PWPCF. We remain in the final stages of Palmer's National Permit Discharge System (NPDES) renewal process. This permit is written by the USEPA, with local assistance from the MADEP. In the final draft stage, the permit will have stricter limitations and monitoring requirements for Palmer to be in compliance with the Federal Clean Water Act. When the permit requirements are tightened, process changes may need to be made and in our case many of the proposed changes won't be met without the costly upgrading of the present facilities. Also, with tighter regulations comes the need for new types of expanded laboratory testing compared to the current analyzing being done.

The construction for the final part of the sewer separation project, Phase 4, has begun. L & D Services of Monson was award the project as the responsible low bidder at a cost of \$4,449,000. The project is expected to last until the end of 2011. We are also aggressively insuring that all homes that are part of this project be connected to the new sanitary sewer and to have all old "backyard" sewer lines removed. This was not all completed in the first part of the separation project in 2002 and we continue to find these old outdated connections that are being replaced at the town's expense.

While this budget year was most difficult with cuts to labor, capital expenses and the comments that next years budget may be even worse, I must stress that continuous maintenance and

reasonable capital improvements of our currently facilities should not be neglected or we may in line for some large and costly improvements that will dramatically increase the currently rate structure.

I would like to thank my staff at the wastewater treatment plant for their commitment, cooperation, and professionalism that they demonstrate on a daily basis.

Respectfully submitted,

Gerald Skowronek  
Superintendent  
Palmer Water Pollution Control Facilities

## **PALMER PUBLIC LIBRARY**

### **Introduction**

Committed to its role as a community center, the Palmer Public Library provided a gathering space and a variety of materials to meet the personal, educational, and cultural needs of its patrons. Throughout the year, the library partnered with a variety of local organizations to encourage and support a love of reading and life-long learning with attention to the changing needs of the community.

### **Services**

The Palmer Public Library provided our community with free access to a variety of services and programming to all ages. This past year the Palmer Public Library celebrated the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the *Grand Opening* of the new building in May 2005. Library usage has increased each year since the new library opened in the spring of 2005. In FY2010 approximately 141,066 people visited the library which is an increase of 150% from the 56,800 visits reported in 2006. For another consecutive year, circulation of library materials has increased with an overall circulation of 147,042 items. This represents a 46% increase in the past five years since the grand opening in 2005 of 100,965 items.

Economic conditions continued to impact the services provided by the Palmer Public Library. A reduction of nearly 4% (\$29,104) to the FY2010 library budget presented additional challenges for the library. The budget cuts necessitated a reduction in hours of operation and left two staff positions vacant. Despite these challenges the library staff managed a greater workload including assisting patron inquiries at three service desks (circulation, youth services, and reference). Library staff assisted patrons with an estimated 30,600 reference transactions and processed over 31,500 interlibrary loans to fulfill requests for materials by our patrons. Reference transactions involved assisting patrons locate materials in the catalog and on the shelves, assisting with academic research projects, providing instructions on use of the internet and databases, family genealogy, and guiding patrons to a wealth of information accessible through the library. Currently over 9,281 Palmer residents are registered borrowers of the

Central Western Massachusetts Automated Resource Sharing (C/W MARS) through the Palmer Public Library, which represents approximately 72% of Palmer residents (population estimate 12,933).

The Palmer Public Library offered the residents of Palmer free access to a wide range of materials and resources to meet their personal, educational, and cultural interests. The collection of over 73,071 items includes books, magazines, audiobooks, music cds, videos/dvds, electronic resources, museum passes and much more. Once again, print materials (books), which represent 61% of library's annual circulation, remains as the traditional and most popular format checked out of the library. Other popular formats checked out at the library are video/dvds and audiobooks, which represent 35% of the annual circulation. The library also offers free access to a variety of electronic resources (databases, periodicals, e-books, videos etc.) accessible through the library's website: [www.palmer.lib.ma.us](http://www.palmer.lib.ma.us). Access to our library website offers access 24/7 and opens the door to information even when the library is not open to the public. Emerging technologies, such as playaways (a new format of preloaded digital audiobooks) and digital books (e-books and e-audio) continue to grow in our collection and new titles are frequently added throughout the year by the consortium, C/W MARS, and member libraries.

#### Holdings Information

<b>Materials</b>	<b>ADULT &amp; YA</b>	<b>CHILDREN</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Books	37,122	19,598	<b>56,720</b>
Volumes of print periodicals and newspapers	369	52	<b>421</b>
Audio (Compact discs, cassettes)	6,098	470	<b>6,568</b>
Video cassettes/discs/DVD	3,756	1,655	<b>5,411</b>
E-books	1,145	0	<b>1,145</b>
Downloadable audio	1,848	0	<b>1,848</b>
Downloadable video	249	0	<b>249</b>
Other materials in electronic format (include CD-ROMs)	100	107	<b>207</b>
Materials in microforms (fiche, rolls, etc.)	112	0	<b>112</b>
Miscellaneous (e.g. kits, puzzles, toys)	58	332	<b>390</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>50,857</b>	<b>22,214</b>	<b>73,071</b>



Despite budget constraints, the Palmer Public Library provided a variety of programming that supported our community's interest in local history, culture, art, and reading. The 2009 summer reading program "Starship Adventure @ Your Library" engaged a total of 715 participants. This total includes 539 children and young adults plus 176 adult participants. A variety of performances entertained patrons of all ages, including the Toe Jam Puppet Band, Sparky Davis – Stories from Outer Space, and a magic show by Peter Boie. A special thank you to the Palmer Cultural Council, a member of the Massachusetts Arts Council, who funded in-part the six summer reading performances, which featured high quality performers from all over New England. Additional activities, including special story-time programs, arts & crafts, and games, were hosted by the Youth Services staff throughout the summer. A free Roller Skating Party offered all Summer Reading participants and their families an opportunity to celebrate the end of another successful summer reading season! Our 2009 Summer Reading program would not be the same without the generous support of our local business community. Thank you to all of our library supporters who have donated to support such a rewarding library service to our community.

During the fall and spring seasons, the Youth Services staff was busy with Toddler playgroups and 3 & 4 Year Old Story Time during the morning hours. The afternoon was active with middle school students engaged with after school activities. A few of the after school activities included gaming programs featuring Dance Dance Revolution and Guitar Hero. The *Power of Positive* series was presented by Kimberly Ladue, RN, HCC owner and founder of Holistic Simply, LLC and was funded through Library Services & Technology Act grant "In Tune: Reaching out to Tweens & Teens." These workshops taught and empowered young adult participants to make school, home, and life better with the "power of positive". The Teen Advisory Board (TAB) met throughout the year to plan, coordinate, and host events for younger children, including the extremely popular Gingerbread House Workshop held in December.

Nearly 750 adults and young adults attended 76 programs held throughout the year. During the fall, author Todd McLeish discussed his latest book, *Basking with Humpbacks: Tracking Threatened Marine Life in New England Water*. To brush away the winter season artist Gregory John Maichack presented an art workshop: "Monet's Magic Garden". Local area experts and residents of the Palmer community presented lectures to captive audiences. Palmer Historical Commission Chairman Robert Ring discussed local historical sites and issues. Larry Lowenthal & Phil Opielowski gave a lecture on Palmer's railroad history and future as a possible railroad stop. Sandy Nichols presentation on the "Men of the Monuments" featured the lives of 19<sup>th</sup> century sculptors Daniel Chester French and Augustus Saint Gaudens.

The Palmer Public Library was also the venue of over 1,140 meetings, which were held in the library meeting spaces, the Thorndike Room, Three Rivers Room, Bondsville Room, and the Community Room. Meeting space reservations were taken from a variety of users including civic groups, nonprofit organizations, local businesses, and government agencies.

### **Library Support**

The generosity of individual donors, local businesses, and The Friends of the Palmer Public Library continues to fund the programming and activities at the library. The Library Loft Book Store, operated by the Friends of the Public Library, celebrated its tenth year anniversary.

Proceeds from the Library Loft Book Store directly benefit youth programming and activities. The Annual Poetry Pageant, a fundraiser event hosted by Paul Wisniewski, included 20 participants and collected over \$500 for youth programming. The library would not be able to offer the quality and quantity of programming without the donations given by our library supporters.

In addition, over seventy-five volunteers gave an estimated 1,786 hours of volunteer service at the library assisting staff with a wide range of duties from shelving, organizing, assisting with program preparations, and other special projects.

### **Conclusion**

For the first time, the Palmer Public Library did not meet all the requirements for state certification. As a result of the budget cut, the Palmer Public Library did not meet the requirement for the Municipal Appropriation Requirement (MAR) for FY2010. The Palmer Public Library and Town of Palmer were required to submit a Petition for Waiver to the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC). On February 4, 2010, the MBLC granted our Petition for Waiver and we were able to maintain state certification. The Town of Palmer was one of 92 communities to receive a waiver in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Without state certification our library would not be eligible to receive State Aid to Public Libraries funds, apply for grants under the Library Services & Technology Act (LSTA) program, and most importantly patrons would lose the privilege of interlibrary loans - reciprocal borrowing between libraries throughout Massachusetts.

A special thank you to our dedicated library staff who have stepped up to the plate to maintain the day to day operations of the library with the highest level of professionalism and customer service despite the challenges associated with the decrease in funding, staffing levels, and hours of operation.

Our library patrons are the heart of the library and we are very grateful for their patronage and support. The Palmer Public Library has enjoyed serving our community throughout the year and looks forward to meeting the needs of our community in the upcoming year.

Respectfully submitted,  
For the Library Board of Trustees  
Nancy Menard  
Library Director

## **PALMER PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

There were 32 fewer students enrolled in June 2010 than in the previous September, and the school department ended FY10 with a total enrollment of 1,718 students. This decline is faster than the projections predicted in the 2006-07 enrollment study conducted by the New England School Development Council (NESDEC). The largest decline was evidenced at Palmer High School which ended the year with fewer than 600 students. Declines were noticed throughout the year at Converse Middle which ended the year with a total enrollment of 417. Old Mill Pond enrollment declined slightly which ended the year with 702 students.

Palmer High School students continued to perform well on both the English Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics (MA) portions of the spring 2009 MCAS test. For the eighth consecutive year, 100% of the graduating class achieved a competency determination requirement established by the Massachusetts State Board of Education to earn a diploma. While 91% of 8<sup>th</sup> grade and 95% of 10<sup>th</sup> grade students passed the ELA portion of the MCAS test, 77% and 75% of these students, respectively, were in the advanced or proficient categories. In MA 72% of 8<sup>th</sup> graders, and 92% of tenth graders passed the test with only 37% of the former, and 69% of the latter, scoring in the advanced or proficient levels in MA. On the Science and Technology MCAS test, 84% of 8<sup>th</sup> graders passed the test, although only 37% were in the advanced or proficient categories, while 95% of 10<sup>th</sup> graders passed the test and 58% were in the advanced or proficient category. Additional emphasis needs to be focused on low income subgroups, particularly in mathematics. For the first time, PHS students did not make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for subgroups in ELA, and in the aggregate in MA. Student attendance continues to hover around 95%. The percentage of graduating seniors attending post-secondary institutions of higher learning remains high at 77%.

At Converse Middle School 92% of students in grade 5, 6 and 7, passed the 2009 ELA MCAS test, and 54% of 5<sup>th</sup> graders, 45% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders, and 68% of 7<sup>th</sup> graders respectively were in the advanced or proficient categories. Eight-two percent of 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders and 81% of 7<sup>th</sup> graders passed the 2009 MA MCAS test, and 45% of 5<sup>th</sup> graders, 47% of 6<sup>th</sup> graders, and 56% of 7<sup>th</sup> graders were in the advanced or proficient categories. Additionally, 92% of 5<sup>th</sup> graders passed the 2009 science and technology test, with 45% scoring at the advanced or proficient levels. For the first time in six consecutive years, the FY09 MCAS scores for Converse Middle School resulted in the school making Adequately Yearly Progress (AYP) in English and mathematics, in both the aggregate and in all subgroups, including special education and low income populations. We attribute this success to not only the in-depth data analysis, the increase in the number of periods in mathematics in every grade, but also to the implementation of the Everyday Math series in grades K-6, and the Collins Writing Program in English Language Arts, both of which have been in use for three consecutive years. Attendance continues to be around 95%.

At Old Mill Pond School 89% of 3<sup>rd</sup> graders passed the spring 2009 MCAS Reading test, with 61% of students in the advanced and proficient categories. Eighty-five percent of 4<sup>th</sup> graders passed the ELA test, although only 42% achieved in the advanced or proficient categories. In MA 87% of 3<sup>rd</sup> graders and 89% of 4<sup>th</sup> graders passed the test with 64% of 3<sup>rd</sup> graders and 40%

of 4th graders in the advanced or proficient categories. OMP made AYP both in the aggregate and in subgroups both in ELA and in MA. Student attendance continues to hover around 96%.

Much of the FY10 school year was spent under a financial cloud necessitated by the freezing of the school department budget in September upon the arrival of unanticipated special education students into the district. The result of this freezing action enabled the district to survive the fiscal year, ending in the black, including the cafeteria account which was in deficit in the previous year. For the second consecutive year both the state and the Town passed budgets on June 29<sup>th</sup>. The decrease in the Town's appropriation to the school department for FY11, a 4% reduction from the previous year, resulted in the FY11 operating budget that was less than the FY04 appropriation, seven budget cycles ago. The FY11 budget was balanced due to the elimination of two of four retirees' positions, the reduction in force (RIF) of four teachers, and zero salary increases by the school department administrators, non-union employees, custodians, and a salary deferral by the teachers' association.

The School Committee, administration, faculty, and staff are truly proud of the Palmer Public Schools, and the quality and effort provided by all those engaged in the educational process. We remain committed to our mission of continuing to become a community of learners; a partnership among home, school and community; a source of academic excellence evidencing a safe, healthy, disciplined environment that meets the needs of all students as they prepare to fulfill their roles in a democratic and increasingly global society. To these ends, we gratefully acknowledge and appreciate the ongoing support of the Palmer community.

Respectfully,

Palmer School Committee

Maureen Gallagher, Chair  
James St. Amand, Vice Chair  
David M. Lynch, Member  
Robert Janasiewicz, Member  
Gary Blanchette, Member

## **PALMER HIGH SCHOOL**

In October, Palmer High School received wonderful news regarding accreditation from the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEAS&C). In March of 2009 a Visiting Team of professionals spent four days at the high school to review and determine the extent to which the school was meeting the Standards for Accreditation. The visiting committee met with all school personnel, visited a number of classrooms, and examined samples of student work submitted by the staff. The purpose of the visit was to assist the faculty in its pursuit of quality education for its students and to stimulate a continuing drive for improvement in the school. The end result was that Palmer High School was awarded continued full ten-year accreditation! The commission was impressed with many of the services and programs offered at the high school and commended many areas including, but not limited to the following:

- the school's emphasis on writing across the curriculum and the connection of this focus with the academic expectations regarding the communication of ideas
- the development of school wide rubrics linked to the school's academic expectations
- the adoption of a standard format for curriculum documents that identifies benchmarks, instructional strategies, and resources
- the creation of new elective offerings that encourage interdisciplinary learning and emphasize depth of understanding over breadth of coverage
- the range of opportunities provided for students, including service activities and cultural trips that extend learning beyond the normal course offerings and the school campus
- the provision of appropriate technology, equipment, and supplies to support the implementation of the curriculum
- the notable use by teachers of technology as an instructional tool
- the use of various assessment strategies to determine student knowledge, skills, and competencies
- the frequent celebrations and public recognition of student work and achievements
- the safe, positive, respectful and supportive climate in the school
- the creation of partnerships by the school with community agencies in order to meet the social and emotional needs of students
- the availability of up to date technology in the library, classrooms, and auditorium

The school must submit Special Progress Reports to the Commission to provide actions taken to address areas specified by the Commission. Although the formal process of accreditation is completed, meeting the Standards for Accreditation is an ongoing process and will remain a focus for Palmer High School.

The Class of 2010 received its diplomas on June 6 in the high school auditorium. 110 seniors matriculated with a majority of them pursuing higher education at two and four year colleges. The top twenty seniors in the class were honored and recognized by the Palmer Rotary Club at the annual Student Achievement Luncheon. The Rotary presented two scholarships at the

luncheon. Seniors were rewarded for their years of hard work, effort, and academic success at the annual Awards and Scholarship Night where over \$52,000 was awarded in scholarships. This year, Bob's Furniture awarded a total of \$10,000 in scholarships to ten seniors. This was as a result of the successful blood banks hosted at Palmer High School and organized and run for the last twenty-eight years by retired high school principal, Alphonse Murray. Academic and athletic awards were presented to seniors and underclassmen during the annual Class Day Ceremony, held on June 4. We sincerely appreciate the generosity extended to our seniors by the numerous individuals, families, and organizations of Palmer.

Palmer High hosted a September Open House for parents, November Parent Conference night, National Honor Society Induction Ceremony, Lions Club Speech Contest, the student drama production of "The Beatles Slept Here," and an April Arts R Academic Night. In the fall, we sponsored our third annual Career Day. Over 30 professionals shared information about their careers to the student body. For the second year, a team of Palmer High School students competed in "As Schools Match Wits." Our Music Department performed at various events throughout the year: Eastern States Exposition, the fall concert, Festival of Bands and Choruses in December, the QVMEA concert hosted here at Palmer High School, the Spring Concert, and the Memorial Day parade.

Several of the athletic teams achieved milestones for the 2009-2010 school year. All of the Varsity Teams for all three seasons qualified for post season play! The Boys' Soccer Team made history by winning the Western Massachusetts Division II Title, and were State Finalists. The Girls' Basketball Team won the Western Massachusetts Division II Title.

The Palmer United Booster (PUB) Club and the Music Boosters were very active during the year. There were several fundraisers conducted, as well as recognition banquets for the student athletes and music students. Special thanks are extended to the members of both clubs for their time, hard work, and creative ideas for the benefit of the student body!

Members of the School Council met regularly to develop the annual School Improvement Plan. All of the goals of the plan are aligned with the goals of the Strategic Plan for the District as well as the District Improvement Plan. Members of the School Council are: Bonny Rathbone, Principal; Shawn Gersbach, and Fred Dileone, Staff Members; Mary Ellen Anton, Robert Haveles, and, Joanne McDiarmid, Community Representatives; Andrea Mastalerz and Ann Bechard, Parent Representatives; and Ex-Officio member, Joseph Bianca, Assistant Principal.

We appreciate and applaud the contributions of our staff members, parents, and community members in promoting life-long learning skills and making a difference in the lives of our students.

## **CONVERSE MIDDLE SCHOOL**

The 2009-2010 school year has been a year of continued commitment to the learning and success of every student in grades five, six, and seven and for their success on the MCAS. Students in grade five were tested in ELA Reading Comprehension, Math, and Science and Technology/Engineering. Students in

grade six were tested in ELA Reading Comprehension and Math, and grade seven students were tested in ELA Reading Comprehension, ELA Long Composition, and Math. The staff at Converse worked hard to have the students well prepared and the students put forth a serious effort.

Extensive data analysis and work was done through the Performance Improvement Mapping System (PIMS) process to develop appropriate SMART goals for the Converse Middle School Improvement Plan. The focus of this process was to specifically address math, English/language arts, as well as Science MCAS goals. In addition, we have continued with our implementation of the Every Day Math program with ongoing teacher training. To support our seventh grade students in math, we completed our third year successful with two seventh grade homerooms of pre-algebra classes.

The Cougar's Den after school program has continued to be both a successful and valuable resource to many Converse students. Students have the opportunity to stay for an extended day that provides them with the opportunity for extra help, study centers, as well as a variety of educational and fun learning opportunities. The Cougar's Den staff has been supportive of the learning needs of Converse students in their design of specific math goals. Funding is a critical issue for this program so they have continued to seek out fundraising and grant opportunities to maintain their level of support to the students. The support of the community has meant a great deal to the Cougar's Den program, Converse students and their families.

The Converse Middle School PTO has continued to provide significant support to the students and staff. Its fundraising has gone a long way to support a variety of activities including field trips, cultural activities and assemblies. The PTO has also continued to support and organize the 'Step-Up' Ceremony for the seventh grade students. Each seventh grade student was presented with a gift of a scientific calculator that should be quite useful to them as they enter Palmer High School. The PTO also supports the Converse Spring Fling each year as well as supporting the Converse School Yearbook that is produced each year. There are many parents and volunteers who provide many, many hours of work and support behind the scenes for the PTO and Converse.

We cannot thank them enough for their support - it makes a big difference!

Unfortunately, budget cuts to the School Department budget at the close of the school year, have necessitated severe cuts to student programming that will certainly present challenges to student scheduling for the 2010-2011 school year.

### **OLD MILL POND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

First and foremost, it is the Old Mill Pond School Council's undertaking to address both short-term and long-term goals in order to improve the educational quality of our students at *Old Mill Pond Elementary School*. Our plan's practicality reflects an active document which serves as a guide for the future. Progress accountability reporting has been directly highlighted in the Council's Activities. As a work in progress, the council has addressed, amended and enhanced the document to reflect SMART GOALS which are aligned with Palmer Public Schools Strategic Plan.

The following is a list of some of the activities which have occurred within the Old Mill Pond School during the 2009-2010 school years.

- Communication through a monthly parent newsletter, Connect-Ed, and the school website.

- Accreditation/Self Study for Preschool and Kindergarten
- Enhanced behavioral/ emotional services for students
- Created a specialized program for students with severe special needs
- Increased integration of library media & technology standards
- Transition activities for students Pre-K, K-4 including a preschool graduation, Kindergarten Scavenger Hunt, and step-up days for grades 1-4.
- Training and implementation of Curriculum Components including Writing and Thinking Across the Curriculum, Everyday Mathematics, Responsive Classroom, Creative Curriculum, Applied Behavioral Analysis and Restraint Training.
- Supplemental Support Services for students in fourth grade.
- Completed the Performance Improvement Mapping (PIM) Process
- Implementation of school wide character education and violence prevention programs including Second Step Program, Steps to Success Program, Anti-Bullying Education, Character Trait Training, Student Recognition Program and Responsive Classroom.
- Implementation of the Old Mill Pond After-School Program.

We would like to thank the following members of our School Council for their commitment and dedication:

Mary Lou Callahan, Co-Chair, Principal  
 Paul Burns, Co-Chair, Community Representative  
 Susan Farrell, *Ex-Officio*, Assistant Principal  
 Catherine Simonoko, Teacher  
 Melissa Edwards, Secretary, Teacher  
 Valerie Wlodyka, Parent  
 Alissa Purda, Parent  
 Katherine Rock, Parent  
 James Lynch, Community Representative

The Palmer Public School System is dedicated to providing professional development opportunities where the staff at Old Mill Pond School is kept abreast of current educational standards and teaching methods. The core of our evolving curriculum is the continued incorporation of the state standards as outlined in the current Massachusetts Curriculum Frameworks. We have solicited the talents and expertise of our Assistant Principal, Susan Farrell, to train a District Team in the Performance Improvement Mapping (PIM) Process, analyzing MCAS data and developing a District Improvement Plan.

Through the District Professional Development funds we have been able to maintain the work of Mr. Bill Atwood from the Collins Education Associates to work with our staff in order to ensure the continuity and consistency for the improvement of open response answers in the area of mathematics within the MCAS Assessment. Nancy Dorsky has provided training in the implementation of the Everyday Mathematics Program. This program is in its third year of implementation. At the early childhood level, ongoing training and support was provided to facilitate the implementation of the Creative Curriculum Program. First grade teachers participated in Responsive Classroom training this past summer while second grade will be trained this summer with implementation in the fall. Two of the Guidance staff, Mrs. McNally and Mrs. Costello will also be trained in the Administrative Components of the Responsive



Classroom along with Mrs. Farrell and Mrs. North This program integrates children's social, emotional and academic learning to create a strong and safe community within the classroom and larger school environment. Mrs. Sorreiro and Mrs. McIntire benefited from taking part in the Visions for Liberty and Equality: A Teaching American History program for K-5 Educators, titled Paradoxes and Promises: Slavery and Freedom in America.

In an attempt to assure that students develop the social skills needed to be productive members of the Old Mill Pond School Community, the delivery of guidance services continued to reflect a more integrated model, meeting weekly with guidance staff to ensure implementation of schedules to include classroom instruction/assessment; integration activities, large and small group instructional activities and parent educational outreach, along with developing an integrated curriculum model for career development, character development and business partnerships. Career Portfolios have been developed for each student inclusive of two written career samples along with the career interest inventory at the fourth grade level.

Last year the Grinspoon foundation invited the Palmer Public Schools to participate in a very exciting teacher recognition program established by Harold Grinspoon. It is Mr. Grinspoon's desire to honor and celebrate educators for the work they do and to bring to recognition the importance of the teaching profession. We here at Old Mill Pond School, recognized Mrs. North as last year's recipient. This year we were proud to announce that Old Mill Pond staff, Mrs. Costello, guidance, was the recipient of the Harold Grinspoon Excellence in Teaching Award. This award was presented to an individual who possesses professionalism through qualities such as excellence in teaching practices; his/her own professional development, good attendance, and their ability to demonstrate collaboration and cooperation.

Congratulations to all our students, parents and staff once again for supporting and raising over \$6,800 during the Jump Rope for Heart fundraiser for the 2009/2010 school year. Mrs. Reddington challenged our school community students, staff and parents to become involved in the American Hearts Association's, "Jump Rope for Heart" bringing our school to the forefront as number one in Western and Central Massachusetts three years in a row.

Mrs. Rebecca Coughlin, a Dental Hygienist Student from Springfield Technical Community College along with nine senior dental hygiene students worked in the first grade classrooms assessing the present oral health status of groups of first grade children, presenting information about proper oral care and then assess if their oral health awareness and behavior has increased over a short term.

Ian Kos, grade one student, was the recipient of the "My Ideal School" contest which was sponsored by the Project of State Treasurer, Timothy P. Cahill Office and the Massachusetts School Building Authority. Ian was honored at a special ceremony on June 22 at the Massachusetts State House in Boston. At this event, State Treasurer, Tim Cahill provided Ian with a \$100. Savings Bond donated by Sovereign Bank. We are very proud of Ian for this accomplishment.

Presentation of the Dog/Canine Assistance took place on May 14, 2010, in the PHS gymnasium with fourth grade students and the present eighth grade students. This event was the culmination

of the last five years of funds being raised to support a disabled student who is in need of a service dog. Palmer students raised the \$15,000 required to train a service dog which benefits the student.

“Community building must become the heart of any school improvement effort.” A strong school community is built through the talents and strengths of everyone. Thanks must be extended to the members of our School Committee, Mrs. Maureen Gallagher, Mr. James St. Amand, Mr. David Lynch, Mr. Robert Janasiewicz and Mr. Blanchette for their continued support and countless hours to the Palmer Public Schools. We wish to thank all of the parents, students, and volunteers who assisted our students and staff in all areas of school life ~ tutoring, fundraisers, parties, field trips, and the parent-teacher organization activities. Volunteers are a critical component to the success of our educational programs. Their work and support has truly enriched our students’ school experiences. Our PAW’S Officers are committed to and support the children at OMP. We are grateful to Tracey Kroll, Sheila Browne, Eric Rayleonard and Brian White for their countless hours of service.

We continue our relationship with Pathfinder Regional Vocational School as students work with the children and teachers in the Early Childhood and Kindergarten Program. The students from the National Honor Society at Palmer High School gave of their time in sharing their expertise as tutors within our elementary classrooms. Students from the eighth grade Interact Club provided an enjoyment of reading to our Grade 1 students. For their time and talents, we are forever grateful.

We wish to acknowledge and thank Ms. Lissa Carroll, Mrs. Mary Ellen Kuzmeski, Mrs. Sue Korniotis, and Mrs. Martha Willis for their contribution and the many, many years of service to the children of Palmer.

It is our staff that reflects the talents and strengths of our programs. We offer a welcoming, comfortable and enthusiastic school environment where each of us reflect and celebrate the differences of others. All of their contributions and presence make a significant difference.

## **SPECIAL EDUCATION**

The Department of Special Services includes all special education programs, Title I programs, home and hospital tutoring, and Chapter 622 (discrimination). The department is also responsible for the screening of all youngsters entering kindergarten as well as three and four year-olds for possible special needs and early intervention programs. We are also responsible for writing many of the school systems state and federal grants.

The Palmer Public Schools is an Early Childhood (integrated preschool special needs) through Grade 12 School District and is a member of the Pathfinder Regional Vocational-Technical School District. It offers a full range of special needs programs at all levels and includes a full range of support services, including speech/language, occupational therapy, and school adjustment counseling. Services for low incidence children, such as vision teacher, services for the hearing impaired children, physical therapy etc. are contracted annually as prescribed by the student’s Individual Educational Plans.

Thanks to the efforts of the Superintendent, the School Committee, the Town Office and the community, we were able to continue a revolving Medicaid Account for medical type services. This account allows us to channel funds generated by current children enrolled in programs who receive Mass Health Insurance into the contracted service account, thus freeing up resources for general education. A similar practice was established for tuition from special needs youngsters tuitioned into the Palmer Public Schools.

For the Department of Special Services, the 2010 school year was one of continued program improvement and development. As of December 2009, we show a decrease in the number of children receiving special education services. Our enrollment is 352 students as opposed to 356 in 2009. Of particular interest is the reduction in our student "Full Time Equivalents," (FTEs) which is an indicator of the amount of time a student is removed from the regular classroom to receive specially designed instruction. This decrease is attributed mostly to the efforts of the district in returning children to the regular classroom through 504 plans, the result of re-evaluations, no longer being eligible or requiring special educational assistance, and only slightly due to reduced enrollment. The school system continues its effort, on the part of each of the schools, to meet children's needs within the classroom.

In March, the district underwent a comprehensive audit by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. This audit reviewed our policies and procedures in the areas of Special Education, English Learner Education, Title I, and Civil Rights. The report is due in the Fall of 2010.

State and federal grants written and supervised by the department continue to assist in defraying some of the costs of special education. The Federal Special Education Grant, #240 (94-142, continues to fully fund the cost of one of our Early Childhood Programs as well as one speech and language pathologist, and a number of paraprofessional instructional assistant positions. The State Early Childhood Grant, #262, provides speech assistance and screening services to children enrolled in private preschool programs and other early childhood age groups. The Federal Title I Grant, #305, continues to provide remedial math services to eligible youngsters in grades 3-7, as well as reading in grades 3-4 at Old Mill Pond School and reading and study skills at the Middle School. The entire grant is committed to staff salaries and instructional materials, including technology. This program provides services to approximately 225 youngsters in the elementary and middle schools.

The Drug Free Schools Grant, #331, continues to provide drug awareness and prevention information to staff, parents and students. This grant funds a Bullying Awareness program at Old Mill Pond School as well as "Guiding Good Choices," a prevention program for parents of children ages 9-14.

This year we have continued our integration of our Early Childhood Program. Both early childhood programs at Old Mill Pond School are national accreditation by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). A nominal fee is charged for the non-special needs children in the program. An evaluation of this program has shown tremendous support from the parents as well as a great benefit to the children.

The mainstreaming of special education students continues to be an area of emphasis. This year we have been able to mainstream a number of children through the use of one-to-one paraprofessionals, and have received tremendous cooperation and assistance from school administrators and staff.

This past year we have continued our Parent Advisory Council for Special Education. This group of parents and professionals meets eight to ten times per year and addresses current topics of interest to parents. For more information on these meetings call Neil Metcalf, Director of Special Education at (413) 283-2651.

This year the Department of Special Services, in conjunction with the Palmer High School, has continued to utilize the alternative education program for Palmer High School students. This program increases options to high school students who are at risk of dropping out and help direct them to a more goal-oriented program. It will also provide an option to return some students, currently placed in out-of- district programs, and hopefully avoid the placement of children out of district.

The Department of Special Services continues to advocate for the education of all children in the least restrictive environment and to the maximum degree possible.

## **FACILITIES**

The Facilities Department oversees the work performance of maintenance and custodial members in the school buildings, school bus transportation services, facility rentals, grounds upkeep and facility maintenance and improvements.

The buildings and grounds are in use virtually 7 days a week and well into the late evening by many civic and private groups in addition to the school programs.

Once again we were able to take advantage of National Grid's rebate-incentive program. The gymnasias at Old Mill Pond and Converse Middle had their lighting fixtures replaced with more energy efficient units. All fluorescent lamps, approximately 6,000, were replaced in all three schools,

Extensive training with personnel regarding emergency and safety procedures relating to building infrastructure continues to be one of our major focal points.

As always we cannot express enough how truly grateful we are to the other town departments who provide outstanding support, services and expertise.

Special thanks to the Parks and Highway Departments for all they do year round with the grounds. Their efforts are very much appreciated.

## **PATHFINDER REGIONAL VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**

The Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School District Committee presents this report to the citizens of the District. Although there was no election in 2009, membership on the committee was altered by the resignation of Gail Roberts who moved from Monson, and Elizabeth Desrochers of Granby who resigned. In November the Granby Board of Selectmen and the Granby School Committee appointed William E. Johnson to serve until November 2010. Subsequently the Monson Board of Selectmen and School Committee appointed Andrew Jaffee to serve until November 2010 as well. Michael Cavanaugh and David Droz, both of Palmer, will continue as chairman and vice-chairman, respectively.

### **CURRICULUM**

Pathfinder students have continued to demonstrate improvement in their performance and achievement on the MCAS tests. The combined percentage of students who scored in the “Advanced” category was 30 percent, by far the best showing in that category in Pathfinder’s history. In English, only one student in the Class of 2010 did not pass, putting out passing score for ELA at 99 percent. Ninety-three percent of the sophomores passed the Science and Technology portion of the MCAS this time around, an increase of 5 percent over the previous year. These results clearly reflect the dedication of the staff, the effectiveness of the extra classes, and the importance and value students now place on their MCAS performance.

Science staff continued to fine-tune the scope and sequence of the science courses to include several sections of Engineering and Technology as well as additions to the *Project Lead the Way* curriculum. Students in those courses did exceptionally well in the preliminary round of science MCAS testing. Also, revisions in the Biology offerings are expected to produce similar results.

The Math Department continued their progress in the development of an advanced curriculum for those students who have demonstrated accelerated ability. Course work includes an Algebra II course for entering 9th graders designed to challenge those students who had already taken Algebra I. Work continued in the development of an honors math curriculum, including putting the final touches on a calculus course which would follow the pre-calculus class that many students now take. The English Department just completed their first year of honors offerings for 9<sup>th</sup> graders with further development and implementation now being planned for 10<sup>th</sup> graders. Social Studies teachers expect to complete an honors curriculum for their department as well over the summer months.

As we entered our fourth year of *Project Lead the Way* (PLTW), the staff was and continues to be excited about the potential for this program. Currently a science elective, this offering will eventually lead to a comprehensive and rigorous pre-engineering program involving several technical departments. Our instructors continued to participate in professional development training designed specifically for PLTW during the summer at Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

The school's affiliations with area hospitals and health care facilities continued to provide positive learning experiences for the students, and the expansion of the program has proven to be very successful.

Pathfinder continued to build on several of the efforts that were launched during the previous school year, including:

- Expansion of the mandatory portfolio requirement in academic and vocational studies for all freshmen and the continued investigation of the use of digital portfolios
- Reinstitution of the Renaissance Program and the continuation of the trimester system for 2009-10
- Continued on-site staff development in cooperation with Westfield State College for two courses to be offered in the Spring 2010 semester
- Training in Red Cross CPR and First Aid and OSHA for students and staff as appropriate

### **MUNICIPAL AND COMMUNITY PROJECTS:**

Municipal and community service projects continued to be important components of the Pathfinder curriculum for junior and senior students. These projects also constitute a major portion of the school's commitment to local town departments. The following list is a sample of such efforts completed over the past year:

- Automotive Technology performed services on the Palmer Police Dare Cruiser.
- Auto Collision Technology students performed services on a trailer for the State Division of Standards. They also removed decals from a retiring police cruiser.
- Auto Collision students and their instructor organized and ran the Annual Pathfinder Car Show, an event that benefits the Skills USA Program at Pathfinder.
- Auto Reconditioning students continued to service vehicles for police, highway, fire and water districts in member towns.
- Building Services students provided regular maintenance activities at the Quaboag Hills Chamber of Commerce office and in the Pathfinder building.
- The Cosmetology Program held a "Spa Day" at the Palmer Senior Center. Students gave facials, manicures and pedicures. Students also participated on their own time in a fundraiser to raise scholarship money in memory of a former cosmetology student. Students also participated in a fundraiser to raise money for a Pathfinder student who needed a kidney transplant.

- Health Program students participated in the Wing Memorial/Palmer Ambulance Disaster Drill in June 2009.
- The Horticulture Program did landscape work at the Three Rivers Post Office and the 2nd Congregational Church in Palmer.
- Culinary Arts students and instructors planned, prepared and served meals for the numerous local and civic events. They continue to assist in the preparation of meals for the Elderly Lunch Program at Pathfinder.
- Machine Technology students finished the sign for the Ware Town Hall. Students continued to make the popular aluminum cribbage boards that are donated to local charity fund raising programs.
- Once again, the Pathfinder Electronics Program hosted the State “F.I.R.S.T.” Tech. Challenge Robotics competition, the results of which are noted later in this report.

The school’s Cooperative Education Program allows eligible seniors and juniors, in the second half of the school year, to receive a paid career-related job experience in lieu of attending their vocational program at the school. This “real world” opportunity allows them to improve upon their previously established work ethics and basic skills. With employers acting as mentors, the young apprentices earned a fair wage and were exposed to a wide array of technical experiences. As the school year progressed, the students enhanced their skills, developed interpersonal skills, and experienced valuable lessons in maintaining a balance with their personal lives, school academics, and their jobs. To be considered and remain on the program, students must demonstrate above average grades, attendance, and discipline.

The downturn in the economy has made student placement difficult to impossible in some of the trade areas. This year, 12 students participated in the program. The senior graduates accounted for 9 of these placements. After graduation 5 students were hired as full time employees with 2 of the 5 attending college part time. One student continues working on a part time scheduling while attending college full time. The remaining students left their placement at graduation to pursue other opportunities. Three juniors were placed by the end of the school year in continued employment through the summer on a full time basis.

We are committed to providing our students with this invaluable “real world” experience and will continue to work with the local community for placement opportunities

## **STUDENT BODY**

Pathfinder's enrollment as of October 1, 2009 totaled 661 students, including the following numbers from member towns: Belchertown 83; Granby 21; Hardwick 18; Monson 96; New Braintree 6; Palmer 195; Ware 104; and Warren 55. The remaining 83 students were residents of out-of-district communities, the largest number of students coming from Ludlow and Oakham, respectively. The 661 figure in October represents an increase of 38 students overall from the number reported on October 1, 2008.

The Guidance Office—which also serves as the Admissions Office—received over 300 applications for September, 2009 admission. Of the applications received, 250 represented applicants for the 180 openings in the 9th grade. Once again, transfer opportunities into the 10th or 11th grades were very limited, and there was a waiting list for vocational offerings in grades 9, 10, and 11.

Parents of students seeking to learn more about Pathfinder or to visit the school had a variety of options available to them throughout the year. In October and November Pathfinder's Guidance Department visited the 8th graders in our member towns to provide an in-depth presentation about Pathfinder's offerings and the application process. In late November, an evening Open House event was held for 5th-8th graders and their parents. The event featured a free dinner and a tour of the facility, including a visit to technical areas of interest.

In addition to the fall events, each winter 8th graders who are interested are invited to attend a field trip with their school counselor to visit Pathfinder and get a first-hand look at technical programs, facilities, and to interact with current students. This visit is a great opportunity for the students to experience a typical day at Pathfinder. This year a larger number of students participated in these tours than the previous year. The summer Youth Enrichment Program continued to attract large numbers of enthusiastic participants. For students and parents with Internet access, Pathfinder's newly designed website ([www.pathfindertech.org](http://www.pathfindertech.org)) provides detailed information about our academic and technical programs, sports and extracurricular activities, as well as the application process, and a copy of the application can be downloaded and printed.

The Pathfinder Chapter of the National Technical Honor Society inducted a deserving group of new and existing members in an impressive ceremony. To qualify, students must have a cumulative G.P.A. of 3.5 or above and exhibit the qualities of skill, honesty, service, responsibility, scholarship, citizenship, and leadership. The induction ceremony is held in early spring so that senior inductees can include this recognition on college, scholarship, and work applications. The Chapter continued the practice of inviting as guests underclass students who had a grade point average of 3.0 or higher and who demonstrated potential for induction into the Society.

Pathfinder's Renaissance Program continued to be well received by staff and students alike. A faculty committee chaired by Judy Mercier oversees this popular initiative. Each trimester, the program recognizes and rewards students for academic and vocational accomplishments. Students who earn high honors are eligible for a "Gold Card;" students earning honors receive a "Silver Card;" and students who have made noticeable improvements are awarded "Most Improved Cards." Students who have perfect attendance for the year are also eligible for Renaissance recognition. Each level of card comes with its own perks and rewards ranging from homework passes, to free admission to school dances, to discounts at local businesses. In addition, each trimester Renaissance students earn raffle tickets towards the end-of-the-year drawing for prizes like music systems and gift cards. The Renaissance Program is supported through fundraising efforts, assistance from the school committee, as well as generous donations from local businesses. Recently, many faculty members have become involved by providing classroom incentives and rewards for Renaissance card holders.



At the twenty-fourth Annual “Outstanding Vocational-Technical Student” awards dinner sponsored by the Massachusetts Association of Vocational Administrators (MAVA) and the Massachusetts Vocational Association (MVA), Desiree Fernandes of Granby represented Pathfinder. Desiree, a student in the Computer Programming and Web Design Program, was ranked at the top of her graduating class. With a GPA of 3.96, Desiree consistently earned high honors and Renaissance Gold Card recognition and received numerous awards for outstanding achievement and excellence in vocational and academic studies. She also received the Presidential Certificate of Merit for outstanding performance in Computer Programming and Web Design and is scheduled to attend Champlain College in the fall.

Amber Ingalls of Ware was selected as Pathfinder’s nominee for the 2010 Massachusetts Vocational Association’s Student Achievement Award. Amber is a graduate of Pathfinder’s Computer Assisted Drafting program, receiving that department’s top award in her senior year. Academically, she received awards for outstanding achievement in English, chemistry, psychology, and Holocaust studies. Amber will be attending Springfield Technical Community College in the fall.

In June 2010, the graduating class of 145 students received diplomas and technical certificates at commencement exercises, held for the first time on Friday evening. Approximately 63% of the graduates had plans to continue their education at the post-secondary level, about 18 % planned to enter the workforce, while 5% had made commitments to serve in the military. Interest in four-year colleges also continued to be a popular option for graduating seniors. Additionally, seniors successfully participated in the Early College program offered through one of the local community colleges.

Over \$150,000 in scholarships was awarded to members of Pathfinder’s Class of 2010. Once again, state and local organizations and businesses, post-secondary institutions, as well as private individuals, continued to recognize the ability and potential of Pathfinder graduates in the form of generous donations. The school committee, administration-- and particularly the graduates-- are grateful for this support and are especially proud of the number of awards that have been made to honor the memory of former Pathfinder students and staff members.

### **STUDENT AFFAIRS AND ATHLETICS**

Another school year started with a total enrollment of 661 students coming from a combination of 8 in-district and approximately 20 out of district towns. There were a number of student activities including fund-raisers, blood drives and dances.

Beginning in September class advisors for each class held elections for class officers. The SKILLS U.S.A. group held their 17th Annual Car Show on September 27<sup>th</sup> in order to raise money in order to attend competitions. Last years car show had about 90 cars due to inclement weather. Typically the car show has about 150 entrants.

Skills USA District Competitions were held on March 9<sup>th</sup> at McCann Technical High School in North Adams. This was a qualifying event for the upcoming State Skills USA Championships to be held at the end of April in Marlborough, MA. Fourteen students received gold, silver or bronze medals in their respective trade categories. Ten of these fourteen students competed at the state event where they competed for almost a million dollars in tools, prizes and scholarships. October is the month that the sophomores have a “ring breakfast” sponsored by Balfour. Proud sophomores receive their class rings while having a breakfast that our cafeteria provides for them. A *Welcome Freshmen* dance was also sponsored by the sophomore class on October 2<sup>nd</sup>.

During the school year, we sponsored three blood drives with the help of the Red Cross. Our drives were held in November, February and April this year. A total of 180 pints of blood were collected from all three drives which will help over 500 patients. Two of our seniors who were active volunteers for four years were eligible for and received scholarships of \$500.00 each from Bob’s Furniture stores.

Also in November we had our annual Recruitment Open House. Current Pathfinder students assist in giving tours to groups of parents and students who have an interest in attending Pathfinder in the future. A spaghetti dinner is served prior to tours of our school. This is a very popular event.

The Student Council-- along with their advisor Mrs. Bock-- collected and assembled Thanksgiving Baskets during their annual food drive. These 35 baskets and frozen turkeys were then distributed to needy local families through Valley Human Services.

November ended with the presentation of first trimester Renaissance cards, the purpose of which was described earlier in this report. The cards are distributed at the end of each trimester, and a total of 518 students were rewarded for the entire year. A Renaissance raffle is held at the end of the year, and prizes included \$200 gift cards from Walmart, flat screen televisions, and other great prizes.

December featured a dance sponsored by the junior class as well as our *Open Mike* night on December 16<sup>th</sup>. The English Department coordinates this night where students are able to display their literary, poetic, or musical talent.

February brought the excitement of our annual Robotics competition held on February 27<sup>th</sup>. Pathfinder’s own Electronics/Robotics Technology Department hosted its 3<sup>rd</sup> F.I.R.S.T. Tech challenge. Thirty- two teams from Massachusetts, Maine, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Vermont, and South Carolina participated. Our cafeteria and gym were bustling with activity and fun! It was estimated that about 800 people attended that day. Robotics Team members are eligible for as many as 746 scholarships from 135 colleges across the college with a value placed at \$12.2 million in scholarships! For the past three years, Pathfinder has had the distinction of being the ONLY school in Massachusetts with a F.I.R.S.T Affiliate Partnership that allows us to host a FTC competition such as this.

By the end of this event the Pathfinder Team had earned TWO judged awards: The *Innovate Award* for ingenuity and inventiveness and The *Inspire Award* given to the team that best represented a role model Tech Challenge team. The *Inspire Award* is the most prestigious award, and Pathfinder Robotics earned a spot in the World Championship Event in Atlanta held on April 14-18<sup>th</sup>. After a flurry of fund raising by the team and the help of many donations, the team went to Atlanta for the world event consisting of 1190 teams. Three consecutive days of competition placed the Pathfinder team in 20<sup>th</sup> position, ranking them in the top 2% nationwide.

During March, students contributed spare change for the *Pennies for Patients* program for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. This program raises money for research and patient services.

The Senior Banquet was held at the school on May 7<sup>th</sup> with a free buffet, dance and entertainment. The event was well attended. Academic awards took place on May 13<sup>th</sup> and the Junior Prom was held at the Ludlow Country Club on May 14<sup>th</sup>. The theme was *A Night in Paris*, and a promenade was held for the first time ever. Students looked striking; colorful dresses dotted the cafeteria at the promenade.

## **ATHLETICS**

Once again Pathfinder saw over 200 students participate in our various athletic teams. In addition, 2009-10 showed a larger increase in the number of freshman participants, which should provide for a positive future. Highlights for the year include:

- The girls' soccer team qualified for the Western Mass Tournament.
- Golf moved to the fall season for the first time.
- The girls' basketball team qualified for the Western Mass. Tournament
- The softball team qualified for the Western Mass. Tournament.
- Josselyn Guyer and Brad Landry were chosen as the Outstanding Senior Athletes for the school year.
- Tylor Richardson was named to the *Republican's* all scholastic first team in both football and baseball.

## **SPECIAL SERVICES**

During 2010, the Special Education Department continued to demonstrate its responsibility to provide a continuum of special education and related services for eligible students in accordance with the provisions of state and federal regulations. The Department continues to be committed to finding opportunities to offer different pathways to learning so that the diverse ability levels of the students might be accommodated.

The Special Education Department strives to address the needs of all learners in grades 9-12 and to the students enrolled in the Modified Vocational Instruction Program (MVIP). Through continued integrated efforts with students, parents, and other student support services, the Department focuses on promoting each student's self-awareness, ability to self-advocate, and sense of self sufficiency.

Special Education chairpersons conducted Team evaluations, annual reviews and re-evaluations for forty-six (46) students in the MVIP Program and one hundred and seventy (170) students in grade 9-12. The Department also continued to be responsible for approximately fifty (50) students who have 504 Accommodation Plans. Section 504 is a federal civil rights law which requires the provision of reasonable accommodations to students and staff who qualify as disabled under the law.

The Department includes fifteen (15) professionally licensed teachers, seven (7) paraprofessionals, and a full-time secretary. Licensed specialists include a Speech and Language Pathologists, School Adjustment Counselor, and Occupational Therapist.

The Federal *Individuals with Disabilities Education Act*, passed in 1990 and revised in 2004, recognizes the importance of educating students with special needs in classrooms with their peers. This practice is commonly referred to as "inclusion". More than thirty years of research shows that students with disabilities who participate in general education classes—with proper special education supports, language supports, and accommodations—dramatically improve their performance. Therefore, inclusion has become part of what it means to have a "highly-qualified" education at Pathfinder.

The MVIP Program operated with forty-six (46) students. All six shops continued to offer instruction closely coordinated with the Chapter 74 approved programs in which they are housed. Components of the program continued to include: Office Business; Building Services, Horticulture, Auto Reconditioning, Food Services, and Health Occupations.

The vocational-technical personnel in the MVIP Program prepare the students for a *support* role in the aligned area. At graduation exercises in June, nine (9) MVIP students received their certificates.

Given the results of the District's Coordinated Program Review, conducted in the spring of 2009, the Corrective Action Plan (CAP) indicated all district documents that referenced the MVIP program would be revised and a separate application for the MVIP program would be eliminated. The Department moved forward with these changes and **all** students have equal access to **all** academic and vocational programming. Concurrently, the designation "MVIP" will be discontinued beginning in September 2010.

### **GRANTS, DONATIONS AND CONTRACTS**

Source	Amount	Acquisitions/ Products
Private Donation	\$2,000	1 aerodyne Bike, 1 Circuit Machine
Planet Fitness	\$5,040	1,680 pounds of plastic coated easy access weights
ARRA Emergency Stimulus Funds	\$537,766	Replenish shortfall
Pathfinder Booster Club	\$1,000	4 sets of sideline headsets
NEPAC – New England Patriots Alumni Association	\$500	4 sets of sideline headsets
Special Education Grant	\$226,910	1 Math, 1 ELA inclusion model teacher, evals, ESPED. materials
Special Ed Improvement Grant	\$2,500	ELA Inclusion training
Special Ed – ARRA	\$84,936	Pilot <i>Understanding Your Disability and Taking Responsibility for Your Own Education</i> project – Fund SPED position
Title I – ARRA	\$44,496	Quadrant D Staff Training, Summer Transition Program, Further BC Collaboration
Title I	\$152,459	ELA and Math Inclusion instructor. Shop week ELA tutor
Teacher Quality	\$29,647	Retain highly qualified Staff Member
Technology	\$3,200	Renew Renaissance/Read 180 License for Reading Lab
WIA – Year Round	\$79,205	Provide meaningful summer jobs for 32 participants and year round jobs for 4.
WIA – Stimulus	\$80,822	Provide meaningful summer

		jobs for 50 participants
Academic Support	\$23,660	MCAS PREP and remediation for 30 Pathfinder 9th Graders
Carl Perkins Funds	\$89,866	Hire Drafting/CAD Teacher, <i>Project Lead the Way</i> , Professional Development
Total	\$1,364,007	

### **SPECIAL PROGRAMS**

The Summer Youth Enrichment Program served 90 children between the ages of 9 and 13. The program ran for three one-week sessions between July 13th and July 31st. Participants had the opportunity to select from the following options: automotive, carpentry, cosmetology, electronics, environmental explorers, photography & web design, Vex robotics, nursing, and sustainable science. The daily schedule placed participants in their specialty areas in the morning with sports, games, or crafts in the afternoon.

The program faced a unique challenge this year. Because of a cafeteria remodeling project, the culinary program—the most popular offering-- did not run because of the construction.

Parent and student satisfaction with the Youth Enrichment Program has been extraordinary. Many students return to the program several times and express regret when they become too old to participate. It serves as an excellent introduction to Pathfinder and its environment.

Pathfinder's summer school program is designed to enable students to make up information missed during the school year and earn credit needed for their promotion or graduation. The academic summer school program was offered during the month of July. It ran Monday through Friday with two morning sessions, each two hours long. A total of 40 hours in attendance was required for completing the program. In order for the program to remain self-sufficient and to be competitive with other area programs, the course fee—which had remained unchanged for the past 5 years-- was raised to \$165. Fifteen academic courses were offered for grades 8-12.

Additionally, a vocational related theory program was offered during the last week of June. The combined summer school enrollment included 150 students from 9 school districts.

### **FACULTY AND STAFF**

Except for the grant funded positions in drafting and mathematics, the number of staff in 2009-10 remained essentially unchanged, but Pathfinder continued to experience the retirements of

long-time staff members. In June, the school bade farewell to Richard Stinnette (Programming & Web Design) and Gerald Skaza (Biology).

Dr. Paist continued to serve on the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Association of Vocational Administrators and on the Board of Directors of the Quaboag Hills Chamber of Commerce. An active member of the Assn. for Career & Technical Education, he is one of three Region I Directors for that organization's National Council of Local Administrators. At their fall conference held in September, he was honored to be selected for the Distinguished Service Award for 2008-09.

## **BUDGET AND FINANCE**

The school committee adopted a FY11 budget of \$12,262.460—level funded for the second consecutive year. All eight of the District's member communities subsequently approved their assessments. Consequently, the budget was approved pursuant to the regional school budget statute.

The vulnerability of reimbursement for regional school transportation in the current economic climate was a continuing concern throughout the year. That concern was justified when the Governor made cuts of approximately 62% to that account. Happily those funds were restored when the state's revenues improved toward the end of 2009. However, the prospect still remains for reduced regional transportation aid in FY11.

The following chart illustrates the FY11 assessments to each member community.

TOWN	MINIMUM CONTRI- BUTION	SHARE MVIP Program	ADDITION -AL CONTRI- BUTION	SHARE OF REGULAR CAPITAL	5th yr of 5 YR CAPITAL PLAN	TRANS- POR- TATION	TOTAL
BELCHER- TOWN	469,907	42,972	171,002	9,852	14,258	55,004	762,996
GRANBY	169,006	8,594	54,626	3,147	6,156	17,751	259,100
HARDWICK	89,235	8,594	35,626	2,052	2,245	11,459	149,212
MONSON	490,783	77,350	178,128	10,262	8,127	57,296	821,946
N. BRAIN- TREE	23,960		7,125	410	813	2,292	34,600
PALMER	1,035,404	137,511	425,131	24,493	10,901	136,745	1,770,185
WARE	538,003	51,567	211,378	12,178	7,894	67,991	889,010
WARREN	218,384	17,189	116,377	6,705	4,196	37,433	400,283
TOTAL	3,034,682	343,778	1,199,392	69,100	54,590	385,790	5,087,332

## **CONCLUDING STATEMENT**

The school committee is justly proud of the staff and students and of the contributions they have made to the economic health of our District. The committee recognizes that, in this era of accountability and high expectations, many changes need to be made. The increased emphasis on academic skills needs to be maintained without diminishing the quality of students' technical studies.

The effort to add the town of Oakham to the District is in its final stages. The Commissioner of Elementary & Secondary Education has given his approval, effective July 1, 2011. In the meantime, however, Senator Stephen Brewer has filed legislation making the town's membership retroactive to July 1, 2010. That bill has passed the Senate and is currently awaiting action in the House of Representatives.

The committee is mindful of the prediction that FY12 fiscal picture will undoubtedly be as bad if not worse than FY11. Despite this bleak outlook, however, the challenge will be to preserve the quality of education that the students deserve.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Cavanaugh, Palmer, Chairman  
Judith C. Dudek, Belchertown  
Lorraine F. Alves, Belchertown  
William E. Johnson, Granby  
Robert J. Dupuis, Hardwick  
Andrew I. Jaffee, Monson  
Duncan Stewart, New Braintree  
David Droz, Palmer  
M. Barbara Ray, Ware  
Thomas Rugani, Warren

Gerald L. Paist, Superintendent-Director



TELEPHONE DIRECTORY  
AMBULANCE, FIRE AND POLICE EMERGENCY - 911

<b>For Questions Regarding:</b>	<b>Call this Department:</b>	<b>Phone:</b>
Appeals (zoning issues)	<b>Appeals, Board of</b>	283-2605
Assessments, Abatements	<b>Assessors, Board of</b>	283-2607
Building Permits, Electric Permits, Plumbing, gas & wiring Permits, Zoning Enforcement	<b>Building Inspector</b>	283-2638
Burial Records, Cemetery Plots	<b>Cemetery</b>	283-2665
Emergency Preparedness, Catastrophe	<b>Civil Defense</b>	283-8792
Future planning for Palmer	<b>Community Development Dept. Palmer Redevelopment Authority</b>	283-2614 283-4100
Wetlands Management	<b>Conservation Commission</b>	283-2611
Senior activities, Information & Transportation	<b>Council on Aging</b>	283-2670
Animal Control	<b>Dog Officer</b>	283-7770
Health, Sanitation, Septic Permits/Title V, Food & Beverage License & Tobacco License	<b>Health, Board Of</b>	283-2606
Road Maintenance, snow & ice removal	<b>Department of Public Works</b>	283-2615
Alcohol Beverage Information	<b>License Commission</b>	283-2608
Federally funded elderly housing	<b>Palmer Housing Authority</b>	283-9311
All library services	<b>Palmer Public Library</b>	283-3330
Park & Field Maintenance	<b>Department of Public Works</b>	283-2615
Planning, Land Use, Zoning	<b>Planning Board</b>	283-2605
Public Schools	<b>Schools:</b>	
	<b>Converse Middle School</b>	283-2641
	<b>Old Mill Pond Elementary</b>	283-2630
	<b>Palmer High School</b>	283-2621
	<b>Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School</b>	283-9701
	<b>Superintendent of Schools</b>	283-2650
Scale, weight Certification	<b>Sealer of Weights &amp; Measures (Residence)</b>	283-4070
Committee Appointments, Class I, II & III Licenses, Amusement/Entertainment Licenses, Street Entrance, Street Excavation	<b>Town Manager</b>	283-2603
Parking Tickets, Property & Excise Tax Bills	<b>Tax Collector</b>	283-2601
General Accounting	<b>Town Accountant</b>	283-2602
Births, Deaths, Marriages, Dog Licenses, Fishing & Hunting Licenses, Business Certificates, Elections & Voter Registration	<b>Town Clerk</b>	283-2608
Bill Payment, Payroll, Insurance Benefits	<b>Town Treasurer</b>	283-2600
Veteran's Information/Referrals Benefits	<b>Veteran's Agent</b>	283-2610
<b>EMERGENCY NUMBERS - 911</b>	<b>Fire – Bondsville</b>	283-9036
	<b>Palmer</b>	283-3861
	<b>Thorndike</b>	283-3861